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FANTASTIC OFFERS ON THE HOLIDAY OF A LIFETIME IN STUNNING AUSTRALIA



HUGE SAVINGS ON TICKETS TO HOWLETTS AND PORT LYMPNE ANIMAL PARKS – SEE INSIDE

GRAMMARS TO 'LOSE PLACES'

'Hidden agenda' will cut pupil numbers

FEARS have been raised that hundreds of grammar school places across Kent could be lost.

Education experts have warned that parents are being "denied freedom of choice" because of the Government's schools rebuilding programme.

Writing for Kent on Sunday, education expert Peter Read said Kent County Council was cutting places from already oversubscribed grammar schools in Gravesham and Thanet.

He said a "serious reduction" in the number of pupils who will be able to gain entry to selective schools was down to the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme.

"A [KCC] cabinet member has stated that all Kent children who have passed the 11-plus are entitled to a grammar school place," Mr Read said.

"Simultaneously, a buildings programme has been agreed that takes away that entitlement. Parents have the right to be very angry indeed – what is happening in Gravesham and Thanet may well also be planned for other parts of the county."

There are 33 grammar schools in Kent and six in Medway. Gravesend Grammar, which is heavily oversubscribed, is to

EXCLUSIVE

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

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reduce its intake from 150 to 140 in 2011. In Ramsgate, Chatham House Grammar will reduce the number of places on offer in 2010 from 120 to 90.

Mr Read said that in both cases the reduction was so the schools could fit into new premises commissioned under the BSF programme.

Nick Seaton, chairman of the Campaign for Real Education, which lobbies for greater parental choice and better standards, said: "There is no doubt the BSF programme has a hidden agenda to reduce the number of youngsters allowed places in grammar schools."

"It is basically denying parents freedom of choice and different types of schools. We hear from parents that it is a big worry. They like to have the option."

Cllr Mark Dance, KCC's cabinet member for education, has spoken previously about the need for more grammar places and in particular a new grammar school in the west of the county.

Mr Seaton said demand for grammar

schools was growing. Figures released under freedom of information laws show that in 2007, 1,232 children from outside Kent sat the 11-plus and this figure rose to 1,810 this year, he said.

Mr Seaton said: "The trouble is that it is easier for bureaucrats if they do not have to administer an 11-plus test. Reducing the variability and choice available to parents makes life easier for them. There is a conflict of interest."

"We do not think Kent would have agreed to a lot of the things linked to the BSF programme if it truly had the interests of the grammar schools at heart. The whole thing seems designed to reduce parental choice."

However, not everyone is against a reduction in grammar places. Martin Frey, of the Stop the Eleven Plus campaign, welcomed any move to make Kent's school system fairer.

"The selective system is responsible for the large number of schools doing badly in Kent and requiring emergency bail-outs in the form of becoming academies and other special grants," he said. "Too many are in danger of closure for not meeting the Government's 30 per cent GCSE guidelines. Any restriction or contraction of

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO



Picture: DAVE ROLFE

Congrats mum

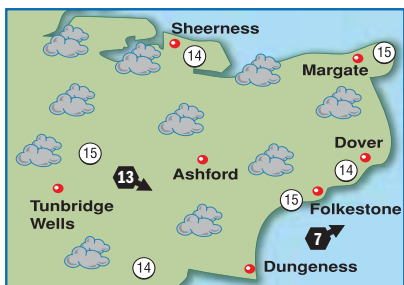
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Kent today



TODAY: Cloudy in the morning. Brighter spells are possible later, but with the chance of light shower too. A gentle north-westerly wind. Max temp 12-15C (54-59F).
TONIGHT: Dry with largely clear skies and just a little cloud around. Gentle northerly winds. Min temp 3-6C (37-43F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	showers	12	54	London	fair	12	54
Belfast	rain	15	59	Liverpool	fair	16	61
Birmingham	fair	11	52	Manchester	showers	12	54
B'mouth	fair	13	55	Newcastle	showers	12	54
Bristol	fair	13	55	Norwich	showers	15	59
Cardiff	fair	14	57	Oxford	fair	15	59
Cork	cloudy	12	54	Southsea	drizzle	15	59
Edinburgh	fair	12	54	S'hampton	fair	12	54
Glasgow	fair	11	52	Southport	sun	—	—
Isle of Man	sun	12	54	Swansea	fair	12	54
Leeds	showers	12	54	Torquay	fair	13	55

Sun & moon

Sunrise	5.23am	Sunset	8.23pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	1.55pm	Moonset	3.01am	8.23pm to 5.21am

High Tides

	today	tomorrow
	ht (m)	ht (m)
Dover	07.03 5.5 19.30 5.7	08.19 5.7 20.39 5.9
Margate	07.48 4.0 20.07 3.9	09.09 4.1 21.24 4.1
St Mary's	00.06 4.7 12.54 4.5	01.25 4.8 14.06 4.7

Week ahead

monday Dry but cloudy. max 15C min 8C	thursday Dry. Bright. max 18C min 8C
tuesday Some sun. max 18C min 9C	friday Sunny spells. max 19C min 8C
wednesday Isolated showers. max 18C min 8C	saturday Dry and fine. max 19C min 9C

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Pupils the innocent victims of plans to rebuild schools



By **PETER J READ**
www.kentadvice.co.uk

BUILDING Schools for the Future, the massive building project to rebuild all secondary schools in the county has a serious downside, creating problems for children in parts of Kent by taking places out of schools that are already full.

The county council is removing places from the two Gravesend grammar schools, arguing it needs more grammar school places in the west of the county, and is also cutting numbers at Chatham House.

At the oversubscribed Chatham House Grammar School in Ramsgate, the intake is being reduced from 120 boys to 90 for September 2010 entry, in order to fit in the new buildings commissioned under BSF. That's more than 200 places removed from a popular school described as 'Outstanding' by Ofsted.

Those deprived of places will include the traditional intake from Herne Bay, who will become disenfranchised as the other neighbouring grammar schools in Faversham and Canterbury are already oversubscribed.

The rebuild of Herne Bay High School, already too small to cater for all children in the town, will offer just 12 additional places in each year.

Gravesend Grammar School, again heavily oversubscribed and turning boys away from local villages, reduces its intake from 150 boys to 140 for 2011 entry.

The school has stated: "The governors see no evidence at all of demand for places decreasing. The school will be subject to a 100 per cent rebuild, currently scheduled to start in 2010. This is being built on previous predictions that anticipate the school having 958 students (current capacity is 1,040). Our current numbers will leave us with a serious accommodation shortfall."

EDUCATION chiefs have unveiled proposals to merge 16 Medway primary schools and close a further three.

Medway council bosses plan to amalgamate seven infant and junior schools across the towns while St Nicholas and All Faiths

School, both Strood, also face being combined.

The three schools facing closure are Ridge Meadow Primary School and St John's Infants, both Chatham, and St Peter's Infants, Rochester. These schools could shut as early as next year.

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

grammar places is to be welcomed by all parents."

But Mr Seaton said: "People want places in grammar schools, but they are being denied by their local authorities. I think a lot of impetus is from the Department for Education because ministers do not like grammars. Local authorities do not like them much generally, although they say they do. It is easier if there is one type of school and to push everyone into the nearest school, but that is not helpful for standards, competition and choice."

KCC director of resources Grahame Ward said: "The Kent BSF programme is worth £1.8 billion. It will provide state-of-the-art facilities for all and transform edu-

cation for generations to come. Consideration was given to the number of places required in the years ahead.

"Any reductions need to roughly maintain the 75 per cent high school, 25 per cent grammar ratio across the county.

"Applications from outside Kent and the popularity of particular schools will have an impact, but such factors are regularly reviewed."

A Medway Council official said: "Our BSF programme is in the early stages and we have not yet decided the sizes of the schools. We have already dealt with the issue of falling numbers through changes made in the Medway academy programme, so it is likely schools rebuilt through BSF will be the same size as they are now."

Not surprising with nearly 100 places being taken out of the school.

Under current Government legislation, grammar school places once removed cannot be replaced and the Conservative Party has indicated it is not minded to change this if elected to power at Westminster.

Three years ago, every Gravesend secondary school volunteered to reduce its intake, although most were already turning children away. They are now being rebuilt to the new capacity.

Oversubscribed

Oversubscribed Thamesview School has reduced its intake from 210 to 150 children, denying access to children from villages for which it is the local school.

Northfleet School for Girls, oversubscribed and popular with the local Sikh community for its single-sex provision, reduced its intake from 200 to 175, heavily oversubscribed CofE St George's School down from 210 to 180, with similar reductions in the other schools.

It is reported that KCC officers are now trying to persuade Gravesend schools to admit additional children who have no school to go to, although every local school is full.

How has this disgraceful situation come about? The driving force is Building Schools for

the Future, the Government scheme to replace all secondary schools with new buildings.

In Gravesend, the plans have been drawn up using 2005 population forecasts that have seriously underestimated pupil numbers, a miscalculation known for some time.

Indeed, at Gravesend Grammar the size of the new school is such that it is not even able to accommodate the new reduced intake, even if all the traditional intake at sixth form level from local non-selective schools is barred.

I have disputed the figures with KCC but was told it would be resolved through the local consortium, with grammar school boys sent to local non-selective schools for some of their sixth form courses.

I don't know what grammar school parents and students will think of that.

How can the planners have got things so wrong? How can the county council argue for more grammar school places across west Kent while simultaneously cutting them?

A cabinet member has stated that all Kent children who have passed the 11-plus are entitled to a grammar school place.

Simultaneously a building programme has been agreed that takes away that entitlement.

Parents have the right to be angry, for what is happening in Gravesend and Thanet may well also be planned for other parts of the county.

Medway schools set to merge or close

EDUCATION chiefs have unveiled proposals to merge 16 Medway primary schools and close a further three.

Medway council bosses plan to amalgamate seven infant and junior schools across the towns while St Nicholas and All Faiths

School, both Strood, also face being combined.

The three schools facing closure are Ridge Meadow Primary School and St John's Infants, both Chatham, and St Peter's Infants, Rochester. These schools could shut as early as next year.

The sweeping changes – unveiled as part of The Medway Primary Strategy for Change – have been blamed on a falling birth rate which has had a knock-on effect on school rolls and their numbers.

Some schools have had up to

25 per cent of their places empty.

Medway Council's children's services boss Les Wicks said: "Medway's Primary Capital Programme gives us the opportunity to make every primary school suitable to provide a first-class education."

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By **JENNA PUDELEK**

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A SEASIDE town in Kent masquerades as 1980s Yorkshire in Sir Michael Caine's latest movie blockbuster.

The new British film *Is Anybody There?*, which was released on Friday, is set in an old people's home and stars the veteran actor as an anarchic retired magician.

During filming in 2007, the production crew, the legendary Italian Job star and other cast members, including Anne-Marie Duff and David Morrissey, descended on two locations in the county, the Kent Film Office said.

Now, excited pupils and staff at St Peter's School in Folkestone and the residents of Hythe are looking forward to seeing the results on the big screen.

Sir Michael plays The Amazing Clarence, 85, a grieving widower with dementia who strikes up an unlikely friendship with morbid 10-year-old Edward, played by Bill Milner, whose parents have turned their house into a retirement home.

Yorkshire

The most astute Kentish folk may have already spotted that the weather-beaten bus shelter featuring in the poster advertising the film is the one in Prince's Parade, Hythe.

The town's main road was turned into 1980s Yorkshire for two days, said the Kent Film Office, which markets locations in the county to film makers.

Director, John Crowley, also needed to film scenes in a school playground and chose St Peter's where staff were still excited remembering the arrival of the star of iconic films such as *Zulu* and *Alfie*.

Kim Adlington, family liaison officer at the school, said: "It was a wonderful experience for the children.

"The cast and the production crew were so kind to them that it made it really enjoyable.

"They wanted a school by the sea and viewed several, but it was St Peter's position at the top of the Durlacks with the view over the harbour that caught their eyes."

Around 50 pupils took part in the film as extras, and several staff members were chosen to play parents waiting to collect their children at the gates and teachers in the playground.

Asked if she got to meet Sir Michael, she joked: "Yes, I have not washed my hands since and neither have several other people here. He was very nice and very pleasant."

The actor, who has won two Oscars for his supporting roles in *Hannah* and *Her Sisters*

Caine movie magic beside the seaside



WAITING: Sir Michael Caine at the film poster's bus stop in Prince's Parade, Hythe

and *The Cider House Rules*, signed the school's mural.

The children were also treated to signed posters of the latest *Harry Potter* film as a thank you from the production crew, who also make the *Hogwarts* fantasy films.

Sir Michael, 75, believes his role in the touching film is one of his best and said the screenplay for *Is Anybody There?* struck him as an Oscar contender when it left him crying.

"No script has every done that to me before and I don't cry easily, believe me," the cockney star has said.

His wife Shakira found his dying character in the bittersweet coming-of-age film so unsettling that she has banned their pregnant daughter, Natasha, from going to see it.

Kent County Council Kent Film Officer Gabrielle Lindemann said: "We were delighted we were able to help find and secure some of the locations used in the film.

"The Kent Film Office is assisting a growing number of productions keen to use the county, which will put it firmly on the map as an ideal destination for filming projects."

To see this clip search 'caine' @ yourkenttv.co.uk



See a trailer for Sir Michael Caine's new blockbuster, *Is Anybody There?* Some of the film was shot in Kent

Watchdog drops 'negligent' claim from KCC report

A REPORT that accused Kent County Council of "negligently" investing taxpayers' money into Icelandic banks is to be rewritten.

KCC had threatened to sue the Audit Commission for the use of the word in its Risk and Return document, which investigated local authorities and their deposits in Icelandic banks.

KCC has £50 million frozen in Iceland's banking system, but is hopeful of getting a large proportion of the cash back.

But chief executive Peter Gilroy revealed during Thursday's full council meeting the document would be amended.

He said: "We have been, and are still, in negotiation with the Audit Commission about its report.

"We are encouraged by the tone of these negotiations and by the fact the commission has proposed to issue amendments to the report, publishing and circulating them accordingly.

"It would remove the word negligent from paragraph 45 and table three of the report. "Negotiations are continuing."

Bury good rescue by football fans

FOOTBALL supporters drinking outside a pub in Medway rushed to free a woman trapped beneath a car.

About 15 Bury fans waiting to watch their team play Gillingham last Saturday rushed to Jackie Adams' aid after the vehicle ran over her leg.

They lifted the car off the road while other supporters stopped traffic to allow an ambulance through.

Bury manager Alan Knill said: "The fans were heroes. They were typical Bury fans; they all mucked in and helped.

"They did a fantastic job."

Parents reveal their grief over son's death

THE family of a 21-year-old man who died in hospital following an unprovoked street attack have spoken of their grief.

Student Ben Neilson, from Willesborough, near Ashford, was walking along an alleyway next to the town centre Mecca bingo hall when the assault took place, at about 2.40am on Tuesday, April 21.

His parents Barbara and Edward agreed for his life support machine to be switched off last Monday.

They said in a joint statement: "We would like to express our thanks to staff at the William Harvey Hospital and the Royal London Hospital for their kind support and the compassionate care they gave to Ben.

"We are overwhelmed by



TRAGIC LOSS: Student Ben Neilson, 21, was killed

the kindness and support that family and friends have shown to us in this distressing time.

"Ben was a loving son, brother and uncle, and a great friend to everyone who knew him.

"He was the light, life and soul of everything he was part of, his sport, his social

life and his academic career.

"We are devastated at our loss of a bright, beautiful young man whose life has been cruelly cut short."

Ben, who attended Norton Knatchbull Grammar School, was a student at Northumbria University and was only home for the Easter break.

It is thought he had attempted to break up a fight when he was attacked.

Two men are still in police custody after the assault.

Friends set up a Facebook tribute page following the tragedy, which has already attracted more than 800 members.

Friend Charlie Williams wrote: "I still can't quite believe what has happened.

"Although Ben has gone, the memories we all have of him will never leave us."

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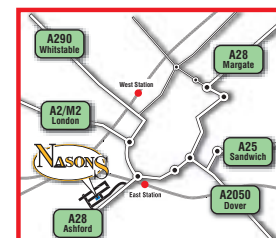
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Clean pair of hands to fend off swine flu

Health experts' advice as fears of pandemic spread

By JENNA PUDELEK

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HAND washing with soap and water is among the vital steps people must take to protect themselves from swine flu.

The influenza, which originated in Mexico, has spread across the world and in the UK hundreds of people are being tested for the contagious virus.

Dr Sandro Limentani, assistant director of public health at NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent, said: "Hand washing is part of a range of measures to try to reduce the spread of infection and it is good hygiene practice for all types of infection."

Confirmed cases of infections of swine flu across the UK have been increasing throughout the week.

The Health Protection Agency (HPA) has advised people to stay at home if they have the symptoms of the flu and maintain good basic hygiene, for example washing hands frequently with soap and water to reduce the spread of the virus from your hands to face, or to other people.

Symptoms

People have been urged to cover their nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing and use a tissue, which must be disposed of quickly and carefully, the HPA said.

Public health experts have advised people experiencing symptoms to stay at home and call NHS Direct for advice.

Dr Limentani said: "In relation to the flu, it is droplet spread by sneezing and through the air from person to person rather than by touch."

KOS Media has been running a campaign in partnership with the NHS in Kent to promote hand washing and basic hygiene in the wake of the superbug scandal in west Kent.

Dr Limentani said the promotion of the



BASIC HYGIENE: KOS Media's campaign echoes health expert's tips on ways to avoid catching airborne bugs like swine flu

hand-hygiene message meant people in Kent had a raised awareness about its importance.

"I think the campaign has helped a lot, not only in the newspaper but also in the hospitals where people would have seen the notices and understand about hygiene."

Symptoms of swine flu are similar to those of regular human seasonal influenza and include fever, fatigue, a lack of appetite, coughing and a sore throat, the HPA said.

People with swine flu have also reported vomiting and diarrhoea.

Across the country the NHS has been preparing for a potential outbreak of swine flu if it reaches pandemic level.

The Department of Health has expanded anti-viral stocks from 35 million to 50 million, ordered extra face masks and posted an information leaflet through the door of every home.

Asked if frontline NHS staff had already been given anti-viral drugs, Dr Yvonne Doyle, regional director of public health for NHS South East Coast, told Kent on Sunday on Friday: "We have not yet reached a pandemic and we are still only at the World Health Organisation (WHO) level five [out of a possible six]."

"If an outbreak emerges a decision will be taken for frontline staff based on the nature and severity of the virus."

"This will be taken in partnership and

based on the expert advice from the HPA."

As KoS went to press, the HPA said there were now 10 confirmed cases of swine flu in the UK. There were more than 600 cases under laboratory investigation.

The nearest confirmed cases to Kent have been in the capital, with one including a 22-year-old from south London. Reports have said the first case of someone from Britain to have contracted swine flu without having gone to Mexico has been confirmed.

The healthcare worker had come into contact with the country's first swine flu victims who had returned from a honeymoon in Cancun.

In Mexico, 248 deaths have been blamed on the virus but no-one in Europe has died.

A spokeswoman for the Kent Health Protection Unit said it was concerning if the virus was spreading from human to human, but the development was to be expected as the flu spreads.

Experts from around the world are continuing research and tests to discover more about the virus.

• If you are concerned you have contracted the virus, do not go to your GP or local hospital, call NHS Direct on 0845 4647 or the Department of Health's swine flu information line on 0800 1 513 513.

Murder charge on bus crash death

A CHATHAM man will appear before Maidstone Crown Court later this month charged with murder.

Christopher Michael Eggleton from Dale Street, Chatham, is accused of killing Rochester resident Martin Barlow, 30, on Friday, April 3.

Eggleton appeared before Medway Magistrates Court on Friday and was released on bail.

A number of conditions were imposed on the 45-year-old, who has been forbidden from entering Medway – banning him from returning home – and driving a vehicle.

He will appear at Maidstone Crown Court on Friday, May 15.

Mr Barlow died after being struck by an Arriva bus outside his home in Catherine Street.

Neighbours have called on Arriva to re-route their buses away from the residential road.

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Enjoy all the action from the recent National Police Dog Trials held at Leeds Castle.

Here comes the sun

SUNSEEKERS are expected to flock to Kent's beaches in the coming months after the Met Office predicted a hot and dry summer.

Temperatures across the UK are likely to be warmer than average, and rainfall near or below average, from the beginning of June until the end of August.

The long-range forecast will be welcomed by businesses in seaside towns such as Margate, Ramsgate and Whitstable that have suffered as a result of two successive wet summers.

Ewen McCallum, chief meteorologist at the Met Office, said things were looking promising.

He said: "After two wet summers, the signs are more promising this year. We can expect times when temperatures will be above 30C, something we hardly saw at all last year."

August last year was seen as the duller on record as there were only 105.5 hours of sunshine compared to an average for the month of 165.

It was also the fifth wettest since records began, with 139.8mm of rain falling.

Despite the positive outlook, the Met Office warned there was still a risk of heavy downpours this summer due to the heat.



WARM FRONT: Met Office predicts a long war summer for towns like Broadstairs

Government services director Rob Varley added: "Our long-range forecasts are proving useful to a range of people, such as emergency planners and the water industry, in order to help them plan ahead."

"They are not forecasts that can be used to plan a summer holiday or inform an outdoor event."

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Rebel Bob: Why I back Gurkhas

By **STEVE KNIGHT, MARIJKE COX**
and **SIMON ROBINSON**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

REBEL Labour MP Bob Marshall-Andrews has revealed why he again voted against his party to help secure a shock victory for Gurkhas' rights.

The Medway MP, pictured right, was one of 27 Labour MPs who sided with the Lib Dems and Tories during Wednesday's historic Commons vote, leading to the Government's first defeat in an opposition day debate since 1997.

While the Gurkhas' victory will not automatically change the controversial immigration policy announced last week, the Home Office may now find it impossible to resist demands for a radical rethink.

Mr Marshall-Andrews said: "There were three reasons for why I voted against the Government. First, I agree very strongly with the opinion that the Gurkhas are a special case, undeniably so.

"The connection with the British Army is so close that it seems manifestly wrong to deny the rights they want.

"Second, the Government's argument

against the Gurkhas is totally flawed and in many ways contradictory. Finally, there is the association the Gurkhas have with the Medway towns, with many still living here. We have a close relationship with the Gurkhas here, so the vote had a special meaning to me."

Mr Marshall-Andrews has rebelled against the Government many times since 2001 – voting against his own party 20 times during 2005 alone. Last week the Home Office announced a new policy it said would allow another 10,000 of the Nepalese former soldiers and their families to settle in the UK.

However, the Gurkha Justice Campaign said the complex criteria attached to the decision meant that in reality only a few hundred would be eligible.

The Government had been forced to come up with a new policy after the High Court decided last year the previous system of allowing only those soldiers who had been discharged after 1997 to remain in the country was unlawful.

Shorncliffe Barracks in Folkestone is home to the 2nd Battalion the Royal Gurkha Rifles, while nearly half the soldiers of the Maidstone-based 36 Engineers Regiment are Queen's Gurkha Engineers.

Mr Marshall-Andrews was the only MP in Kent to vote against his party, despite fellow Labour member Gwyn Prosser (Dover and Deal) sitting on the all-party parliamentary group on Gurkha rights.

But Mr Prosser has defended his decision amid criticism from Kent Conservatives



STAND FIRM: Gurkhas have been heartened by the level of support for their cause

and the Gurkha Justice Campaign.

He said: "About half an hour before the vote was taken the Home Secretary gave us a written assurance that no Gurkhas presently in the country would be deported. That was my particular concern.

"Equally important was that it was said ministers would bring forward their promise to review the conditions of settlement to within a few months rather than 12 months.

"I can understand people being bewildered, but if an MP enters into negotiations on a policy it would be wrong to secure important improvements and then walk into the lobby with the Tories and Lib Dems."

Meanwhile, Kent's Conservative parliamentary candidates jointly condemned the county's Labour MPs for what they call the "betrayal" of the Gurkhas. They said in a statement: "The Gurkhas have proudly served this country during numerous conflicts. They have frequently risked their lives and, on occasion, given their lives for our country yet have been betrayed.

"If you are prepared to die for this country then you should have the right to live in this country."

• **Gurkha Justice Campaign member Peter Carroll on the group's historic victory – see page 40.**

Rifleman returns from the firing line



SAFE RETURN: Rifleman Rupesh Limbu

A GURKHA soldier is back in Kent after a stint training police officers in Afghanistan, **writes Chris Murphy.**

Rifleman Rupesh Limbu was stationed in one of the world's most dangerous places, but is now safely back at the Sir John Moore Barracks, Shorncliffe, Folkestone.

The loyal soldier has completed a six-month tour of duty working with the Afghan police.

The rifleman – along with soldiers from A (Amboor) Company, 2nd Battalion, Royal Gurkha Rifles – has been training the Afghan National Police (ANP) as part of a British Army police mentoring team based in Lashkar Gah, the provincial capital of Helmand Province.

The 23-year-old was on his first operational tour, called Operation Herrick, since leaving

his birth home in Dharan, eastern Nepal, having been one of 250 Gurkhas recruited from an annual application of about 30,000.

He said: "We've been patrolling with the ANP on a daily basis. We conduct lessons to improve their policing techniques.

"We're teaching them how to patrol effectively, weapons-handling and marksmanship, fire and movement tactics, first aid and section level command and control.

"I'm proud to serve in Afghanistan. Some of the ANP soldiers speak Urdu, which is similar to Nepali, so I can understand them.

"Parts of the culture of Pashtu, which is the ethnic majority in Helmand Province, are also similar to our customs – especially in the way they cook curry. I think coming from a similar Asian background helps build friendships.

The ANP are always offering us chai, which is a tea, and nibbles."

His commanding officer, Major Chris Boryer, said: "Rifleman Rupesh developed a good rapport with the ANP.

"He's a great radio operator and a steady pair of hands at the wheel.

"We've been the first company to solely focus on police mentoring.

"Working in 16-man teams of four military policemen and 12 Gurkhas, we've made a significant impact on developing the ANP.

"We've been operating in highly isolated areas and stood side by side with them in regular contacts with the enemy.

"Gurkhas are very good at this mentoring role as they have a natural understanding of Asian tribal culture."

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HAY THERE: Baby Nkoumou and mum Boma are bonding well at Howletts, say staff at the park
Picture: DAVE ROLFE

Boma's beautiful baby boy

IN THE wild their numbers are plummeting, but two Kent animal parks are celebrating the birth of two more western lowland gorillas.

Howletts at Bekesbourne, near Canterbury, welcomed little Nkoumou into the world on April 8, bringing the number of gorillas at the park to 51. It was offspring number three for dad Djanghou, himself born at Howletts in 1993, and the first for new

mum Boma. A delighted Lorna Wanless, head of the gorilla section at Howletts, said: "We are fortunate to be able to care for so many western lowland gorillas. Mum and baby are showing real signs of bonding."

And just last weekend, Howletts' sister park Port Lympne, near Hythe, saw the arrival of another baby gorilla, born to Mumba. The baby was her third and another with father Djala. Head of the gorilla section at Port Lympne is Phil Ridges. He said: "We knew Mumba was pregnant but the gestation period

seemed to go on longer than anticipated. Mumba had a successful labour and both mother and baby are doing very well."

There are fewer than 100,000 western lowland gorillas in the world and they will be extinct by 2020 if their numbers continue to decline at the present rate.

Howletts and Port Lympne play a crucial role in the breeding of captive gorillas, with the parks keeping 77 between them.

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No joke for doubting Thomas

AWARD-winning comedian Mark Thomas has called for the public to be allowed to vote on whether MPs' expenses claims are acceptable, *writes Steve Knight*.

The political comic, best known for his Channel 4 show The Mark Thomas Product, was given the idea during the Canterbury leg of his 44-date It's the Stupid Economy stand-up tour.

Audiences are asked to suggest items for a 'people's manifesto' he has promised to campaign on to the Government.

Enthusiasm

The issue of MPs' expenses has been a controversial one in recent weeks after revelations that Home Secretary Jacqui Smith accidentally claimed for two adult films ordered by her husband. She was also criticised for claiming a second home allowance for a house permanently occupied by her family.

Speaking to Kent on Sunday ahead of a further performance in Tunbridge Wells

next month, Thomas said it was important MPs were held to account by the voters.

He said: "I don't care whether someone watches porn or not. However, I do care when somebody is having a state-subsidised porn film. The audience was very much in agreement on this subject."

"The feeling was that during times of hardship, when banks are being bailed out with our money, why have MPs got this scam for expenses and second homes and all of this?"

"They shouldn't be allowed to get away with it and we need to get control of them. That's what a democracy is. We should be getting them to do what we want them to do."

The idea put forward by his Canterbury audience was for a breakdown of MPs' expenses to be published in local newspapers whenever they are released, with readers then asked to vote on whether or not they think the claims are acceptable.

Thomas, who in 2006 entered the record books when he held 20 protests at 20 locations in one day, championed the role newspapers play in the democratic process.

He said: "Local newspapers are having a



MARK MY WORDS: MPs' expenses are no laughing matter for comedian Mark Thomas

rough time but they still play a vital role.

"They're not all about summer fetes, school plays and the mayor; they also act as a watchdog."

Mr Thomas is nine dates into his tour – including at Canterbury's Gulbenkian Theatre and Maidstone's Hazlitt Theatre – and promises Tunbridge Wells a fun show in June.

He said: "It's the enthusiasm of the subjects we talk about that determine whether or not they get included in the manifesto, and some of them will be very difficult for me to campaign on."

"For instance, in Milton Keynes they decided a luminous ingredient should be added to pet food so dog mess can be seen in the dark. Another is that Margaret Thatcher should have to pay for her own funeral."

"There's a whole lot of stuff in there and it's always interesting to find out what things people really care about."

• Mark Thomas will be at the Trinity Theatre, Tunbridge Wells, on June 30. Call 01892 678678 for ticket information and to book.

This show will crack you up, in a good way

KENT will play host to a show on Tuesday which uses comedy to break down the stigma attached to mental illness.

Top comedian John Ryan will perform excerpts from his stand-up routine Cracking Up, during a seminar at Canterbury Christ Church University.

He will be joined by Maya Twardzicki,

a mental health expert, who will explain how the routine uses comedy to raise awareness of mental health issues and suicide and challenges the associated stigma.

Mr Ryan, an Edinburgh Highlight Award winner, said: "Comedy should do two things: make you enjoy yourself and challenge you a little bit."

"Mental health is something that

affects everybody but comes with a huge stigma. But we can challenge that using comedy."

Cracking Up has been performed to sell-out audiences across the South East. The event, at the university's Sidney De Haan Research Centre for Arts and Health in Folkestone, is free and open to the public from 1-3pm. Call 01303 220 870 to book.

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Village shops ram-raider is behind bars

A RAM-RAIDER who targeted cash machines at three village shops in one night has been jailed for six years.



JAILED: Crook Nelson Hilden

Nelson Hilden, of East Farleigh, near Maidstone, was arrested in December after his DNA was found on the smashed windscreen of a stolen four-wheel-drive vehicle.

The 4x4 was one of two that had been used by Hilden and others in ram-raids in Lyminge, Wye and Lenham, between 1.18am and 2.26am on December 12, 2008. Police found the vehicle abandoned after a high-speed chase from the scene of the third raid, during which one of the stolen cars crashed into a patrol car, injuring an officer.

At Maidstone Crown Court on Wednesday, Hilden, 49, was sentenced to two-and-a-half years for attempting to steal a cash point at a store in Lyminge; six years for a second failed attempt at the Co-op in Wye; and six years for a third attempt at a convenience store in Lenham, all to run concurrently.

Hilden and his gang caused more than £100,000 of damage by ramming into shop fronts and crashing into parked cars.

Det Insp Tom Richards, of Kent Police, said: "This gang put lives at risk by targeting businesses at the heart of the community, leaving disruption and damage in their wake."

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A CLAUSE that permitted Kent County Council's chief executive to sell almost £12,000 of untaken holiday back to the taxpayer is not available to lower-paid employees, it has been claimed.

While the sum paid to Peter Gilroy for 2007-08 was for untaken holiday allowed to build up over several years, the contracts for other workers say that only a maximum of 10 days' untaken leave can be sold per year.

And while for most of KCC's 44,000 staff up to 10 days' holiday can be carried over to the next year, it cannot be accrued year-on-year – as Mr Gilroy has done.

Kent opposition Labour leader Cllr Mike Eddy said: "I'm surprised by that. One would have thought that this particular rule would apply to everybody, whether it is the chief executive or lower-paid workers who are on the Kent Scheme."

"I have never been asked to approve such expenditure or been consulted on those details. People will be surprised to find Mr Gilroy can sell off his leave entitlement and pick up more than some KCC workers earn in an entire year in the process."

Mr Gilroy's total earnings, which rose from £222,199 in 2005-06 to £250,081 in 2007-08, were discussed at a County Hall scrutiny committee meeting on Wednesday.

The issue of his untaken holidays was first raised by Labour's Cllr Clive Hart, who said afterwards that he was amazed by the figures being discussed.

"This may be permitted but it doesn't look good at all, especially in today's financial climate," he said. "Leading officers are on

Chief exec sells his holiday leave to the taxpayer for £12k



PETER GILROY

A KCC official said: "This is a non-story. Peter Gilroy is an outstanding public servant who spent 28 years in social care before becoming chief executive. He is now covering two roles within KCC. As acting director of children's services as well as chief executive, Peter is conducting a review into child protection in Kent alongside his other duties."

"He is being paid no additional salary for this. Peter is never off duty and rarely able to take his full leave entitlement."

"The remuneration of the chief executive is determined by elected politicians of all three parties. More and more demands are being made on council services at this time."

salaries that most can only dream of. Then when they have so much holiday time they can't fit it all in, they can apparently take cash instead. As a councillor for one of Kent's poorest areas (Margate and Cliftonville), I find this whole matter shocking."

"Mr Gilroy will continue to focus on what matters and we will not comment further on this personal attack on the chief executive."

Meanwhile, KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter hinted at Wednesday's meeting that the pay of other chief officers could start to come down in the near future. The current basic pay range is between £135,000 and £171,600, excluding performance-related bonuses.

Cllr Carter said: "Obviously we have to recruit in a competitive market for good-quality staff and officers. That market will move and I suspect the general trend of senior officers' pay will plateau and even come down. When the world is in a pickle, the public sector should respond accordingly."

"We've halved the number of senior officers in the last 12 years, yet we're doing more than ever despite being leaner."

On performance-related pay, which for 2007-08 was between £15,548 and £25,110 for chief officers, Cllr Carter said KCC should "not be ashamed to reward workers for a job well done" considering the council had performed strongly in recent years.

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Service stations driving up prices

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A CONSUMER watchdog is warning motorists not to blow all their bank holiday spending money on Kent's motorway service station snacks.

Which? Car researchers went to 51 stations on Britain's motorways, including ones in Kent, to find out if they offered value for money.

They bought the popular snacks of still water, Red Bull, jelly babies, large chicken salad sandwich and McCoys or Walkers crisps from Sainsbury's for £5.48.

But the consumer watchdog said that prices soared for the bundle of goods at service stations on Kent's motorways (see table).

The ones in the county checked are the Roadchef, Maidstone, and Stop 24, Folkestone, on the M20, plus Moto on the M2 near Gillingham, and Roadchef, Clacket Lane, on the M25.

The magazine found bottles of water on sale at four times the price they'd cost in a local supermarket and diesel at 13p a litre more than at a non-motorway fuel station.

MOTORWAY SERVICE STATIONS IN KENT VISITED BY WHICH? CAR IN FEBRUARY 2009

Services	£ diesel	£ within five miles	£ petrol	£ within five miles	£ snack at fuel station	£ service area snack	£ bottle water	£ cappuccino
M20 Roadchef, Maidstone	102.9p	99.9p	91.9p	88.9p	£9.27	£9.27	£1.25	£2.50
M20 Stop 24 CT21 4BL	103.9p	N/A	92.9p	N/A	£8.38	N/A	N/A	£2.60
M2 Moto, Medway	106.9p	97.9p	94.9p	87.9p	£10.24	£10.24	£1.49	£2.99
M25 Roadchef, Clacket Lane	99.9p	99.9p	92.9p	89.9p	£9.37	£9.37	£1.25	£2.50

Six fuel station shops charged more than £10 for the five items.

The most expensive was Moto Reading on the M4, charging £10.31, while Cairn Lodge at Happendon on the M74 was the cheapest at £7.49.

That is still a lot higher than the supermarket, said the magazine.

The supermarket price for a 500ml bottle of Buxton or Evian water was 43p, but one M6 station was charging an astonishing £1.89.

Richard Headland, Editor of Which? Car, said: "By all means stop at a motorway service station to use the toilets or have a break from driving, but remember they don't always offer value for money."

"If you're trying to save this summer, buy food and drinks from a supermarket in advance and fill up your car from your cheapest local fuel station before you leave home."

Some toilets were praised for cleanliness in the Which? report.

A spokesman for Moto said: "Government restrictions do not allow motorway service areas to be supermarkets and therefore we cannot charge supermarket prices."

"The survey fails to compare like-for-like brands and products and gives misleading and unfair comparisons."

A spokesman for Roadchef said: "With a full English breakfast at £4.99 and freshly cooked fish and chips at £5.99, a full £1 cheaper than Which? Magazine's own comparator restaurant Harvester, Roadchef offers good value to the travelling public."

"At the first of our newly converted motorway service areas at Strensham South we now have McDonald's trading at high street prices."

No-one from Stop 24 was available for comment.

Cancer survivor to get on-board with sailing star

A 12-YEAR-OLD hero who has beaten cancer is in for the thrill of a lifetime when he takes to the high seas with sailing star Ellen MacArthur.

Joseph Cunningham, from Dartford, is among the lucky ones selected to sail the first leg of a trip around the UK to raise awareness for the Ellen MacArthur Trust.

He will be on board when the huge yacht leaves Cowes today and heads into Brighton and then arrives at the end of the first leg in Dover on May 8.

Dame Ellen will then be giving an inspirational talk in the town on May 9. It will be the first time she has spoken publicly since her record-breaking round-the-world voyage in 2005.

She will talk about her many experiences at sea, her work with the Ellen MacArthur Trust and her plans for the future.

The yacht, the 48-foot Scarlet Oyster will take four months to sail 2,000 nautical miles around Britain stopping at 17 ports on the way,



Picture: ANDREW DARE

HERO: Joseph Cunningham

picking up and dropping off 85 youngsters aged eight to 18, before arriving back at Cowes in September.

All the youngsters on board are there to help regain their confidence as they recover from cancer and leukaemia.

Joseph said: "I'm really looking forward to meeting new people and learning how to sail. And best of all I get to sail with my hero Ellen MacArthur."

He was treated for a brain tumour at Great Ormond Street Hospital after being diagnosed in August, 1998, when he was just two.

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Tories launch election fight

VOTERS have been assured of help throughout the recession if they keep the Conservatives in power at this year's Kent County Council elections.

The party promises in its manifesto to back the county's people and businesses during the current economic climate and beyond, as well as to continue to do what it has done well since 1997.

Entitled Strong Leadership for Difficult Times, the publication sets out 90 commitments in areas including education and skills, the economy, crime and health.

KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter said: "The current economic outlook and the state of public finances undoubtedly means belts will have to be further tightened in the public sector and within the local government family.

"Radical solutions and efficiencies will con-

tinue to be found to carry on our journey of innovation and improvement to service delivery, working together in genuine partnership with our 12 districts, public agencies and the voluntary sector."

Ambitions

The main promises made by the Tories for the next 12 months include a £61 million investment in highway repairs, a further £8m into care for elderly and vulnerable people and to give 6,000 young people access to work-based training.

And according to the manifesto, only the Conservatives will continue to support Kent grammar schools, keep council tax down, deliver excellent value for money and "fight Labour's plans to concrete over the Garden of England".

Cllr Carter added: "Since regaining control of the county council in 1997 from a failing Lib Dem/Labour coalition, Conservative councillors have delivered excellent, high-quality, value-for-money services to the 1.4 million residents of Kent."

Kent Labour released its manifesto in March, promising to cut "wasteful" spending on image consultants and Kent TV if the party is voted into power on June 9.

Leader Cllr Mike Eddy said of the Tory manifesto: "We all know the Conservatives have wasted money on pet projects like Kent TV and on failed business projects.

"They have put £50m of taxpayers' money into Icelandic banks and are pleased they are getting back 70 per cent of one third. And they have the nerve to offer the people of Kent more of the same."

May Day sweeps along high street

SEVENTY morris troupes from across the country will converge on Medway this weekend for the soot-inspired Sweeps festival.

The annual festival, now in its 29th year, draws thousands of visitors to Rochester - making the event the largest May Day celebration of its kind in the country.

The festival began at dawn on Friday with the traditional Jack-in-the-Green awakening ceremony at Blue Bell Hill picnic area.

During the course of the weekend, hundreds of entertainers will perform in the town's pubs and restaurants. Among the biggest draws in this year's line-up are folk-rock heroes Strawbs.

The festival concludes with a procession through Rochester on Bank Holiday Monday.

See www.medway.gov.uk/sweepsfestival for full listings information.

KoS festive sales raise money for county's children

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

CHILDREN from across the county will benefit from thousands of pounds generously donated by KOS Media's army of readers.

The Kent Kids for Christmas appeal allowed people to purchase Kent on Sunday for 60p over the festive period, with the profits handed over to charities that help youngsters who face disadvantages, such as disabilities and homelessness.

The charities that will benefit from your money this year are Demelza Hospice Care for Children, Martha Trust, the Kentish Retts Angels, and the Molly Bubb Fund. Cash is also being donated to Invicta FM's Help a Kent Child campaign.

The Molly Bubb Fund was set up following the death last October of four-year-old Molly from Canterbury, who had been struck with a rare form of brain cancer called choroid plexus carcinoma.

Her mother Kerry said the £500 donation will go towards researching and raising awareness of the illness so other families do not have to go through what theirs did.

She added: "Every single penny helps. We're a small charity of family and friends, we have no overheads and all the money we receive goes straight into the research. We're very happy with the donation."

A further £500 has gone to the Kentish Retts Angels, a support group for parents of Rett syndrome sufferers, which causes severe disability in children, and mainly girls.

Charity organiser Lorraine Hockey, whose 16-year-old daughter Kassie has the condition, said the money will go towards a Christmas party for affected youngsters and their families: "Our members come from all



over Kent so this money will enable a lot of people to have a really great evening and I'd like to say thank you to KOS Media's readers. Parties are more and more expensive so this money will be a great help."

Martha Trust provides a home for life for people with profound physical and learning difficulties, and has a residential home and day centre in Deal.

Fundraiser Serita Boxall said of the £1,000 donation: "It's a lot of money and will be a huge help. It's really kind of your readers to have donated in this way."

The charity is holding a fire-walk in Basepoint Business Centre's car park at Shearway Business Park, Folkestone, on October 28, to raise more funds.

It is also looking to sell off pieces of a giant puzzle to help pay for days out and specialist equipment for residents. For more details see www.marthatrust.org.uk.

Demelza House children's hospice will also be receiving £1,000, while £5,000 is being given to Invicta FM's Help a Kent Child

Campaign, from which several charities across Kent will be hoping to receive a share of the total raised.

Invicta charity co-ordinator Neville Dack said: "We try to aid smaller charities that help people directly, and without the generosity of others this would not be possible."

Demelza area fundraiser Keith Lee said: "I'd like to thank the readers for their continued support. Demelza relies heavily on the generosity of the public and without it we would not be able to provide the vital services we do to our children."

KOS Media's marketing manager Richard Purvis will be among the panel members deciding where the Invicta cash should be directed.

He added: "Thanks to all our readers, as well as the wholesalers and newsagents. You have helped make a difference to youngsters' lives."

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Secret screening just for Vue fans

MOVIE-goers have the chance to see a blockbuster film next week before it goes on general release.

Film fans will not know what movie they are going to see until the titles roll at the Mystery Movie screening at the Vue cinema at Westwood Cross, Thanet, on Tuesday.

The film starts at 6.30 pm, but the title is being kept firmly under wraps.

A Vue spokesman said: "While the standard ticket price applies, customers will have the option to leave and seek a refund during the first 20 minutes of the film if they are not happy, although we're pretty sure you won't be going anywhere as the first title is sure to keep you stuck to your seat throughout."

Buy tickets at www.myvue.com/mystery-movies/ or by phoning 08712 240240.

Euro-sceptic slams Tory treaty plans



UKIP BACKER: Millionaire Stuart Wheeler

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

MILLIONAIRE Euro-sceptic Stuart Wheeler has criticised the Conservative Party's plans for a referendum on the controversial Lisbon Treaty.

Leader David Cameron announced this week that if the Tories gained power before the agreement became law, he would seek to reverse the approval made by the Government last year.

But Mr Wheeler, who lives at Chilham Castle, near Canterbury, told Kent on Sunday he felt the British public had a right to have their voices heard regardless of whether the treaty had come into force by then or not.

In 2000 the spread-betting tycoon made the largest ever donation to any political party when he handed over £5 million to the Tories. But earlier this year he was expelled from the Conservatives after giving £100,000 to the UK Independence Party (Ukip) and promising to vote for them in the upcoming European elections.

One of his reasons for doing so was because the Tories would not promise to hold a referendum. Mr Wheeler said: "It's probably more likely than not that the Lisbon Treaty will already be law by the time of the next general election."

"As soon as all the member states have ratified it, it will become law very soon after."

"I'm certainly glad Mr Cameron has gone some way to show his support for a referendum, but it doesn't really go far enough yet."

The Lisbon Treaty, which seeks to give the European Union more power over its member states, is seen as a replacement for the discarded EU Constitution.

Labour said it would hold a referendum on the constitution, but that one was not needed for the treaty because it did not have constitutional implications.

The Conservatives argue the two are so

similar that the promises should still apply.

Mr Wheeler said: "One of the reasons I am voting for Ukip is to send the message that people really do care about this."

"If Ukip gets a big vote in the European elections then hopefully that will persuade all the parties to make a commitment to hold a referendum."

"I think if the Conservatives gain power and hold a referendum after the treaty becomes law, it would still give Mr Cameron a tremendously strong hand to renegotiate the UK's relationship with the EU."

Ukip leader Nigel Farage, who lives in Bromley and represents the South East in the European Parliament, also criticised the Tories' stance on the subject.

Referendum

He told the BBC: "David Cameron promised that if the constitution was not in force at the time of the general election, a Conservative government would hold a referendum on it, urge a no vote, and reverse Britain's ratification if successful."

"That is a change of position. That is chopping and changing."

Meanwhile, Mr Wheeler has also blasted former Tory leader William Hague for using "weasel words" when talking about the Lisbon Treaty and whether or not the pro-euro shadow business secretary Kenneth Clarke would vote against it if there is a referendum.

Speaking at a meeting of the Euro-sceptic Bruges Group this week, Mr Wheeler said: "William Hague says that he expects Mr Clarke will vote against it. What kind of language is that? Why doesn't he know how he will vote?"

"Did he and David Cameron not ask him that simple question before they appointed him to the shadow cabinet?"

"Mr Hague also indicated that the Conservatives were likely to 'attempt' to scrap the treaty, 'possibly' by calling a retrospective referendum."

"Heavens above. What the voters want is categorical commitments, not a cowardly selection of weasel words."

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Chemical spill turns river pink

AN investigation has started after a section of the Great Stour river turned pink.

The chemical spill was spotted near to the Cobbs Wood Industrial Estate in Ashford this week.

Firefighters raised the alarm, and officials from Canterbury-based Environment Management Team arrived on the scene.

They spotted that an unknown amount of a chemical, used to bind foundry sand, had leaked into the site's drainage system.

This takes excess water from the surface and using pipes, deposits it into the river.

Environment Management Team said the most visible element of the incident was a pink and white discoloration as the chemical mixed with the river's water.

Alan Cansdale, North Kent Area Environment Manager said: "Environment Officers are monitoring the local water environment and acting to reduce the effects of this chemical spill by closely working with our professional partners."

"We had visited the site in 2007 to discuss pollution prevention measures as part of an organised campaign to raise awareness of the detrimental impacts the drainage was having on the river."

"It would appear that actions taken by the company, as a result of advice from Environment Officers, meant far less of this material entered the Great Stour than would otherwise have been the case."

"It goes to show that having an up-to-date emergency spill and site drainage plan is an effective and responsible way to manage your site. All downstream abstractors have been informed and surveys of the affected stretch of river will take place to assess any ecological impact."

If anyone spots a pollution incident, they can call 0800 807060.

Pets feel pinch of recession

INCREASING numbers of pet owners are abandoning their animals because of the recession.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals said there had been a 40 per cent increase in the number of animals left to fend for themselves across the South East.

Kelli Ellison, an RSPCA inspector in east Kent, said: "We have a lot of abandoned animals and it has increased, the highest proportion of which can be put down to the recession. People are struggling and cannot afford vet bills. A lot of people are now trying to rehome their animals."

In 2008, 2,275 animals were abandoned compared to 1,602 in the previous year in the South East, the animal charity said.

Nationally, the number of pets being dumped

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

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had soared by 57 per cent, which equates to a shocking 30 animals abandoned every day.

The number of calls from people who want to give up their pets is up by 52 per cent nationally, which Miss Ellison said was also true in Kent.

She said that types of animals being found by the charity were mainly cats and dogs but in her part of the county, which covers rural areas around Ashford and Folkestone, she had discovered horses and even pigs.

Miss Ellison said it was important people realise that those found guilty of causing unnecessary suffering to an animal could face a six-month prison sentence and £20,000 fine.

She said the cruelty animals are subjected to by their owners never stops shocking her.

In an appalling example of mistreatment, three German shepherd dogs were found dead at a beauty spot at Wouldham near Rochester.

The adult dog had a broken leg, a broken back and cuts all over its body. Two puppies were found nearby with similar injuries.



UNWANTED: Cats and dogs are the most commonly dumped pets

Miss Ellison said last year she had discovered two cats in a basket dumped in a car park by a bin. They had collars but no identification.

"It was a decent cat box and they had a blanket so they had obviously been looked after. Why would anyone do that?" she said.

"You can go into an RSPCA centre, but go as soon as possible. People leave it to a point when it is suddenly happening and they just leave the animal."

"There has been an increase in the number trying to get into animal homes. Because of waiting times of a few weeks we are advising people to do it sooner rather than later."

She urged people to be responsible pet owners and research the cost of any pet they were considering before buying it.

There are basics to consider, like vaccinations, flea and worming treatment, neutering, microchips, food, bedding, toys and insurance so that if anything does go wrong they are covered. For estimates contact a local vet.

RSPCA chief officer Tim Wass added: "If people have pets they cannot care for, for any reason, then help and advice is always available from the RSPCA."



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King of pop's planned base for 50-gig marathon 'too close to haunted caves'

Spooked Jacko pulls out of mansion deal

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

POP superstar Michael Jackson has reportedly changed his mind about staying at a Kent mansion during a marathon series of 50 gigs – because he's not keen on sharing it with the ghosts from nearby Chislehurst Caves.

There were strong rumours the king of pop was going to be staying at Foxbury Manor, in Kemnal Road, Chislehurst.

The huge mansion is now understood to be in private hands and used as a residential home.

The 50-year-old singer is said to be worried about the spooks' effect on his children. That, plus a worry over security, according to sources talking to a national newspaper.

It is claimed Jacko was about to put down a £1 million deposit for his eight-month stay.

Now he is looking at the possibility of staying at a similar-sized home in Sevenoaks, just 15 miles away, and using a helicopter to reach the O2 Arena in Greenwich.

This home is said to be fully secure with a network of cameras and guards to ensure

his family's safety. And there are no reports of things going bump in the night there.

Online property experts Zoopla said Foxbury Manor is worth about £8.6 million. It dates from 1875, when Henry Frederick Tiark, part-owner of Schroders Bank, snapped up 100 acres and built the Elizabethan-style mansion, which covers about 22,000 sq ft.

The main bedroom alone was said to have been 1,800 sq ft.

The mansion now boasts 28 bedrooms, an underground cinema and electric gates.

By the 1920s, new lakes were formed and a chapel created in an attic.

In 1939 the family sold the house to the Church Missionary Society, and in 1976 it was acquired by the Woolwich Building Society as a management training centre.

The company spent £750,000 restoring it in 1994.

The Woolwich left Foxbury in 1998 and developer Richard Upton and his company Cathedral wanted to turn Foxbury into a pair of semis – albeit possibly Britain's grandest.

A spokesman for the company said: "It was sold as a single builder to become a private home. We can't say any more about it. We have not heard of any problems with ghosts."

On its website, the company states: "Foxbury Manor was sold as a private dwelling in 2005."

Some tickets for Jackson's sold out This

Is It shows, which run from July to January next year, have found their way online with an asking price of up to £10,000.

Jackson said this will be the last time he ever performs in the UK, and is said to be flying in a specially built stage from the United States.



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THRILLER: King of pop Michael Jackson

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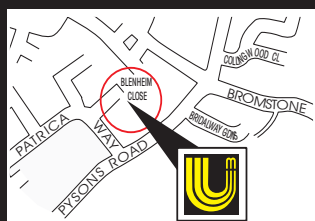
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By **STEVE KNIGHT**

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RECREATIONAL sea anglers have taken their fight against proposed new fishing quotas to the European Commission.

Kent's boat charter firms, tackle shops and other related businesses face financial ruin if they are forced to abide by the same strict limits due to be imposed on commercial fishermen throughout the Continent.

Earlier this month the industry won support from both the UK Government and members of the European Parliament in its fight for exemption from the ruling – but it is the European Commission that will have the final say.

On Tuesday, officials from the Angling Trust met with fisheries commissioner Joe Borg in Brussels to discuss the damage the quotas could cause.

Marine committee chairman Stuart McPherson said afterwards: "We achieved our main aim in making sure he was aware of the importance sea angling has to the UK economy and that excessive regulation, or the imposition of quotas, would have an impact on com-

Anglers take quota battle to Euro chiefs in Brussels

munities. We also made clear the view, backed up by various surveys, that recreational sea angling has far more economic importance in the UK than commercial fishing."

According to the trust, Mr Borg said the new

regulation was not intended to impact on recreational sea anglers and that the quotas would only apply to cod and blue-fin tuna.

However, there is still confusion about what the Commission's definition of recreational sea



UNCERTAIN FUTURE: Recreational fishermen fear new quotas will force the sun to set on their sport

angling is, and whether individual fishermen would be grouped in the same category as boats.

Trust campaigner Leon Roskilly, from Rainham, said there was "still quite a lot to worry about".

He added: "The main concern is the thing about cod because we don't really know what Mr Borg's definition of a significant amount is. Is it 10kg or 1kg? It's still up in the air and leaves the charter boats and private owners who catch cod vulnerable."

"The recreational sea angling industry is hugely important to Kent."

"We are in the South East and there is a big concentration of the population here, many of whom like to go fishing and come down from London to do it on the Kent coast. Quite a lot of money comes into the county as a result, and if these regulations go ahead without alteration they could have a big impact on a lot of people and businesses."

Resistance

Article 47 of the Common Fisheries Policy would have required recreational and sporting fishermen to register their boats, with whatever they caught counted against the national fisheries quota.

Each country would also be required to decide what share of its quota to allocate to each species of fish.

The plans were introduced as a way of clamping down on those on the Continent who use large nets to gather fish, which they use to feed their families.

Angling Trust chief executive Mark Lloyd said of the meeting with Mr Borg: "It was a positive discussion in which we were able to impress on the commissioner the fact recreational sea anglers have a negligible effect on fish stocks and that any attempt to impose bag limits would be met with resistance by recreational sea anglers in the UK."

Mr Lloyd added that Mr Borg asked the trust to provide input into a definition of recreational sea angling and offered continued dialogue on other outstanding issues.

A final decision on the matter is due to be made in June.

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Busking dad sings his way into national spot

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

A SONG about Big Ben and the London Olympics has propelled a middle-aged civil servant into the area finals of a national music competition.

More than 10,000 hopeful singers and songwriters applied to be part of this year's Live and Unsigned, which encourages originality and individuality in acts.

Wayne Jacobs, 47, who lives in Erith near Dartford, is one of the lucky ones and is now only one good performance away from the national finals.

"It started as a bit of a hobby, but I'm on the verge of getting to the next stage," he said, sounding quite bemused by his own success.

"About four years ago I started playing covers, but tried writing and found I could do it."

"There are all sorts of bands in the competition, a lot of young and very, very talented people are left. At the audition stage they are really picky who they chose to interview."

If the father-of-two makes it through the area finals on May 12 in Essex to the grand finals, which will be broadcast on ITV Local, he stands to win a recording and management contract with Future Music worth £20,000 to release a single.



CLASS ACT: Wayne Jacobs dressed as a busker to perform his song about London

Former Sex Pistols manager Malcolm McLaren and Dane Bowers, part of R&B quartet Another Level in the late 90s, are among the judges Mr Jacobs will have to impress.

Chris Grayson, events director of Live and Unsigned, said: "This year's standard has been higher than ever; we have seen some really serious acts demonstrating a real wealth of talent, experience and determina-

tion to crack the industry. The competition is coming alive now and it is a real opportunity for the remaining acts to break through."

Mr Jacobs has the support of his soldier son, Jamie, 22, a Royal Engineer based at Chatham, and daughter Gemma, 23, a civil servant.

He said his wife, Joanna, a carer for her 90-year-old father who lives in the family home, was also pleased if not a little surprised at his success.

He added: "It is my gift. My family are all for me, they come and support me."

Mr Jacobs told how the judges at the regional finals were impressed by his solo act.

He dressed up like a busker and stood with his guitar to sing a song that imagined Big Ben had a heartbeat that could be felt and heard around the streets of London. The song also featured references to the London 2012 Olympics.

The performance earned him a spot on a London radio station to sing the song live.

Mr Jacobs, a trained folk guitarist, said his influences ranged from Kings of Leon and Green Day to Elvis and Roy Orbison.

Live and Unsigned judge Bowers, added: "This industry is all about motivation and determination. If these acts can show they have the material, the talent and the push to make things happen – that is what we are looking for."

For more information about the competition go to www.LiveandUnsigned.UK.com.

Poor take up of free bus pass in deprived areas

A SCHEME to encourage more young people to travel by bus is still not reaching many people from poorer backgrounds.

The Kent Freedom Pass project was launched in June, 2007, as a pilot project in Canterbury, Tonbridge town centre and Tunbridge Wells, and has since been rolled out to a further five districts.

The entire county will be covered by June. However, children from many areas are still not taking up the offer of paying a £50 one-off sum to join, according to a new report.

It shows 13,171 passes have been issued by Kent County Council, but those from affluent households are over-represented among holders, while those from less well-off backgrounds are under-represented.

The KCC report is based on a social demographic tool called Mosaic. It identifies who is taking up the pass and from what social and economic background they are from.

Clive Hart is a Labour KCC councillor for Margate and Cliftonville – two of the South East's most deprived areas. He is calling for parents and guardians in such areas to be allowed to pay for the scheme, which offers unlimited bus travel, in instalments.

The Mosaic figures show 62 per cent of those who hold the pass are children from well-off families while many in categories such as "welfare borderline", "municipal dependency" and "blue collar enterprise" have not yet signed up.

A KCC spokesman said: "The KCC cabinet member for highways, Keith Ferrin, is well aware of the Mosaic report about the Kent Freedom Pass and he believes the best way for people on lower incomes to spread the cost will be through the Credit Union we are establishing."

Richard Hammond

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OUTSPOKEN: Dr David Starkey was once labelled 'the rudest man in Britain'

Starkey pokes the 'small' Celtic tiger

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

OUTSPOKEN scholar Dr David Starkey has sparked outrage again by referring to Ireland, Scotland and Wales as "feeble little countries".

The Kent-based historian, who was once labelled "the rudest man in Britain" by his detractors, rose to mainstream prominence through his popular Channel 4 series on Tudor monarchs.

His comments about England's neighbour-

ing countries were made during last week's episode of the BBC show Question Time, when he was asked if he supported a public holiday for St George's Day.

Dr Starkey, who lives in Barham, near Canterbury, told the audience: "If we decide to go down this route of having an English

national day, that means we become a feeble little country just like the Scots and the Welsh and the Irish.

"Once upon a time England was a great country. Remember, we're distinguished by the fact we don't have national dress.

"We don't make a great fuss about Shakespeare like the Scots do about that deeply boring provincial poet Burns.

"What the Scots and Welsh are, are typical small nations with a romantic 19th century-style nationalism."

Audience members booed Dr Starkey during the tirade, while some television viewers called the BBC switchboard following the show to complain.

The scholar, who also described bagpipe music as "awful", has since refused to apologise for his comments.

Dover and Deal Labour MP Gwyn Prosser, who was born and raised in the Welsh city of Swansea, said he did not appreciate Dr Starkey's outburst.

He said: "As a proud Welshman with a Scottish wife and an Irish PA, I was none too pleased with Starkey's silly comments. But then rudeness has always been his stock in trade.

"His celebrity owes more to his rudeness than it does to his feeble view of history, and to call him the thinking man's Simon Cowell would be to flatter him."

Several Scottish MPs have called for Dr Starkey to apologise, including the nation's culture minister Michael Russell.

However, not everybody was upset by the remarks.

Opinions

Harry Robertson, a former president of the Medway and District Caledonian Association, said Dr Starkey was entitled to his opinions.

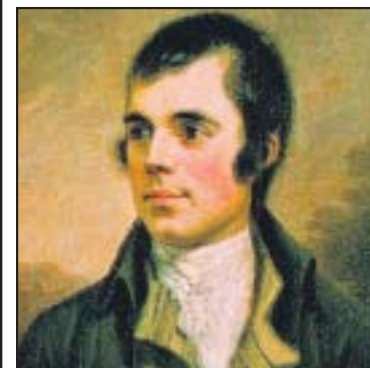
He added: "I'm an amateur historian and usually pay great attention to him, but I'm not interested in what he says about things outside his field of expertise.

"His thoughts on subjects such as Robert Burns are not supported by most people around the world, so they should just be ignored.

"Dr Starkey's views on history are important. His views on bagpipes are not."

Dr Starkey earned the title "rudest man in Britain" after ridiculing the then-Archdeacon of York for his "fatness, smugness and pomposity" for comments made about the Prince and Princess of Wales, Charles and Diana.

He also once compared the Queen to an "uneducated housewife" who shared former Nazi Hermann Goering's impulse to reach for a revolver when he heard the word 'culture'.



ATTACK: David Starkey called Scottish poet Robert Burns 'deeply boring'

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Kentish seaside village celebrates its epic role in the history of powered flight



EARLY BIRD: Pioneer JTC Moore-Brabazon aboard his French-built Voisin Bird of Passage in 1909

Leysdown: the cradle of aviation

A SMALL seaside village in north Kent will be at the heart of an international celebration marking the centenary of flight, *writes Steve Knight*.

The first aeroplane factory in the world was built in Leysdown on the Isle of Sheppey, and it is there where a series of high-flying spectacles are taking place this weekend.

A display by the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight team was set to thrill the crowds during yesterday's festivities, while the Spirit of Kent Spitfire is expected to do the same today.

The celebration has been organised by the owners of Muswell Manor, which was originally the first clubhouse of the Aero Club and later the Royal Aero Club of Great Britain.

Aviation writer and historian Robin Brooks said Leysdown should never be forgotten for its contribution to the flight industry.

He said: "When you think of the jumbo jets that take people abroad, and of Concorde and of astronauts going to the Moon, it all started here in Leysdown. It's quite an achievement."

"It's surprising how few people know about the village's links with the industry, and most people think more of nearby Eastchurch because that was where most planes later flew from. But hopefully this celebration will put Leysdown on the map."

The landing area in front of Muswell Manor attracted the early aviation pioneers of the period, and it was from here that JTC Moore-Brabazon became the first Briton to fly a powered aircraft on May 2, 1909.

Sharon and Terry Munns, who bought the 16th century Grade-II listed building in 1997, have spent years accumulating memorabilia and now run the manor as a guesthouse. Mr Brooks is

part of a small committee of aviation enthusiasts set up by the Munns to help mark the centenary of flight.

He said: "Guests can sit at the same table the Wright brothers sat at when they visited Leysdown in 1909."

"There's a lot of history there. A lot of planning went into this because we feel it really is an epic event."

Meanwhile, the Royal Navy also celebrated the centenary of flight on

Friday with a formation fly-past over Eastchurch of Harrier GR7 and GR9 jets as well as Hawk and Falcon aircraft together with an historic Sea Vixen.

Commander Sue Eagles said: "Not only were the first four Naval pilots trained at Eastchurch, but the first Naval aircraft were also built there."

"Sheppey was the cradle of aviation in this country and the budding Naval aviators found themselves immersed in the wealth of pioneering aeronautical technology and endeavour being built up there."



PIGS MIGHT FLY: JTC Moore-Brabazon – with a pig in a wicker basket



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Court may halt 'unlawful' hostel

Property developer under fire over budget accommodation

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

A TOWN Hall is seeking an injunction against a property developer for "flagrantly" disregarding planning laws and pushing ahead with a controversial hostel.

Gravesham Borough Council took action against HFHA Group after residents raised concerns the budget hotel the company was planning to open in Gravesend with rooms going for £9 a night, would attract "drink and drug users".

Cllr Mike Snelling, the authority's leader, said: "In the light of such flagrant disregard for planning law, the council is taking the strongest action possible as it always would in such circumstances."

Alarmed

"No-one should be under the impression that Gravesham Borough Council would fail to act to stop such unlawful development."

The developer HFHA Group had planning permission to turn the disused offices at Cygnet House in Windmill Street, which were home to Gravesham Borough Council, into a hotel with 60 en suite rooms.

But Dan Dennis, South East manager for Journeys, an offshoot of HFHA, which runs hostels and budget accommodation, admitted the company was now seeking retrospective planning permission after changing the "internal reconfiguration".

Residents were alarmed when they discovered the accommodation advertised on Journeys' website as a hostel.

The wording has now been changed.

More than 50 people attended a protest over the plans last Saturday.

The borough council started legal action after Mr Dennis told the gathering the company planned to push ahead with its plans and hoped to open the site to guests at the end of May.

He said the accommodation would be marketed to construction groups and leisure travel groups.

In a statement HFHA said: "It is our intention to provide a cost-effective option to this sector of the public, not to provide accommodation for immigrants, the homeless, or those on housing benefits."

"The hotel will ensure security by installing CCTV and card entry to all rooms. Passports will be requested from any international guests."

"The HFHA group has expressed to council its willingness to sign planning documents that would further regulate the hotel's clientele."

"The HFHA group believes the financial benefit of the development to the area is currently being overlooked."

"The hotel would deliver a valuable injection of funds to the local economy on a weekly basis."

"The company hopes that Gravesham council will carefully consider the positive impacts of the hotel during the planning application process."

Eurostar on track for a green future

EUROSTAR has announced an environmental report called Tread Lightly, as part of the company's aim to make high-speed rail greener.

The company says it has managed to lower carbon dioxide emissions by more than a quarter and has now raised the target to a 35 per cent saving by 2012.

The company plans to increase its environmental performance by such measures as recyclable plates and cutlery and using a greener electricity tariff at its head office and the car park at Ashford International Station.

It says high-speed train journeys generate one tenth of the carbon dioxide emissions used in an equivalent plane flight.

Richard Brown, chief executive, said: "There is a clear appetite among consumers to find ways of reducing the carbon emissions, and industry should help them do this."

"We expected that much of the reduction in emissions per journey would come in the first two years."

"We are now investing significant resources to achieve the harder-to-win savings to be gained over the next three years."



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Biggin Hill Airshow tickets

THE Royal Air Force Aerobatic Team 'The Red Arrows' will be flying at the Biggin Hill International Air Fair on Saturday and Sunday, June 27 and 28 and you could win tickets, plus an Intotheblue Activity Gift Voucher, to be there. Plus six runners up will receive a family ticket.

Renowned around the world for promoting the professional excellence of the RAF and acting as ambassadors for Great Britain, the team will be based at Biggin Hill for the two-day event and flying their nine Hawk T1 jets in the daily flying display, now featuring a brand new and dynamic livery.

Led this year by Wing Commander Jas Hawker, a special feature of the Sunday programme will be a nine-ship team flypast in V-formation with a Virgin Atlantic Boeing 747-400. The occasion will mark the 25th anniversary of the airline that was launched by Richard Branson in June, 1984, at Gatwick Airport.

"This is a welcome and valued honour for our 25th birthday and I am very proud that one of our fleet Boeing 747s will be performing a flypast at Biggin Hill with the world-famous Red Arrows team" said Sir Richard Branson, president of Virgin Atlantic.

One of the team members this year is Fit Lt Mike Ling who flies as Red 7 and as No 2 in the Synchro Pair. Mike was educated at St Olave's Grammar School in Orpington and was an air cadet with

2427 ATC Squadron based at Biggin Hill.

He has realised his dream of flying with the Red Arrows from the inspiration of seeing the team fly at the Air Fair when he was a schoolboy in the 1990s.

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your e-mail address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Biggin Hill Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Closing date is May 25, 2009.

Question: What date is the Biggin Hill Airshow?
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If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.

Tickets are valid on either show day but not both. Car parking is free and children aged five and under get in for free.

To order tickets over the phone please call the Ticket Line on (01959) 572277.

Adult (aged 16+) advance £17 gate £21; child (aged 6-15) advance £5 gate £7; family (two adults and three children) advance £36 gate £45.



Red newborn to get a life on the wild side

RATS with tails is what many people say when asked to describe a squirrel, but pretty much everyone changes their tune when it comes to the red variety, like this sweet little thing.

It is one of the first red squirrel babies this year, and was born at the Wildwood Trust, a visitor attraction near Canterbury.

The greys far outnumber the rare reds in the UK, and Wildwood said it is doing what it can to even up the numbers.

These new babies, Wildwood's first brood this year, are part of a ground-breaking project to re-introduce red squirrels to the Island of Anglesey and help prevent their national extinction.

Anyone going to the park needs to be there early – these cuties like to take a long lunchtime nap, longer when it gets sunny.

Once they grow, they will be moved to the Welsh island of Anglesey to live wild and free, helping form a buffer population and safeguard the species against national extinction, said the park's experts.

Red squirrels went extinct in Kent in the 1960s despite many areas once teeming with them in the trees.

Peter Smith, Wildwood Trust's chief execu-



Picture: LES WILLIS

GROUND-BREAKING: This year's baby squirrels at the Wildwood Trust will live in Anglesey as part of a new project

tive said: "Red squirrels are going to continue to decline towards extinction unless urgent action is taken.

"But it's not yet too late. If we can help restore areas of woodland to a native state and make a concerted effort, we might just be able to tip the balance back in the red squirrel's favour."

Council pays out big salary to save

A COUNCIL has been slammed for bidding to save money – by employing a £45,000-a-year partnership manager.

Maidstone council wants to employ a money-saving guru to help it – and four other local authorities – get through the current economic woes. But amazingly the job comes with benefits and a pay packet of up to £45,000.

The position would see the lucky candidate heading up the Mid Kent Partnership, a group of councils including Maidstone, Ashford, Swale and Tunbridge Wells, as well as Kent County Council.

The job has been created to try to tackle the crunch effect on local authorities struggling to keep frontline services.

Dan Lock, who lives in Maidstone and earns less than £20,000 a year, said: "It's good that they're trying to save money, but a bit galling for people like me who work really hard and still struggle to make ends meet."

But a Maidstone council spokesman said: "This is a one-year contract in the first instance and the salary reflects the savings that the post holder is expected to achieve. This job will pay for itself many times over."

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£2m plan to return beach to the good old days

HOLIDAY: In decades past Londoners would flock to Gravesend for a holiday of sun, sea and sand

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

IT MAY not rival Copacabana, Phi Phi Island in Thailand, Hawaii, or even Margate for that matter, but Gravesend is getting its beach back.

In decades past, the sandy strip along the edge of the Thames was a lure for Londoners looking for some sun, sea and sand, and who couldn't make it to the Seychelles or Maldives. So instead they were willing to settle for

the periodic British sun, a river and shingle. The tiny beach was regularly swarming with tourists and residents from the town who could dream of more exotic locations while creating their sandcastle sculptures.

But now the council is splashing out some cash to bring the beach back as part of a £2 million scheme to upgrade the promenade and canal.

The shingle beach is to be recreated along the historic promenade as well as repairs to the sea wall.

Almost a mile of the Thames and Medway Canal east of Mark Lane is also to be dredged and a pumping system installed to maintain water levels in the canal.

Other works at the Riverside Leisure Area include resurfacing paths and creating a new paved area in front of the cafeteria, moving the play area in the Gordon Gardens to a position next to the café and new play equipment.

There will also be extra CCTV and repairs to paving around the New Tavern Fort.

Restoration

The project has been agreed by the Homes and Communities Agency, but the Environment Agency and Network Rail will also get a say.

Council leader Cllr Mike Snelling said: "The council believes the river is the bor-

ough's greatest single asset. The restoration of the prom and the canal has always been on our wish list.

While much has been achieved, there is more we want to do and this project marks another step in the process of what we hope will be the re-focusing of the town to look towards the river once again.

"We aspire to providing excellent leisure and recreational facilities throughout Gravesend and the riverside is the latest to benefit from this imaginative and long-term approach."

Victorian Londoners flooded to the area around Rosherville Gardens for their holidays, and then often funded the trip by working in Kent's hop fields.

Osborne outlines Tory spending cut promises

SHADOW Tory Chancellor George Osborne said this week the Conservatives will spend the next year drawing up a hitlist of public spending cuts they will bring in, if they get into power.

Speaking to Kent on Sunday in his first interview after the Tory spring conference in Cheltenham last weekend, Mr Osborne said public spending should be curbed before a general election rather than after.

He said: "We have a huge hole in the Budget created by Labour, which has been so incompetent.

"It may well be a Conservative government that has to deal with the problem, and the bulk of dealing with it has to come from public spending restraint rather than tax rises."

He added: "I don't think Britain should be over-taxed to pay for Labour's over-spending.

"That is primarily what we are looking at - public spending restraint. We think you could get going on that sooner, from 2010, rather than waiting for



HITLIST: George Osborne was in Bromley this week

after a general election."

He was speaking during a visit to Bromley College on Monday at the start of a series of European election campaign whistlestops.

Mr Osborne, 37, said: "We should send a message to the Government that there is a price to pay for their incompetence - people are not happy with the performance of Prime Minister Gordon Brown and the Government."

Asked about public spending cuts, he said: "We have set out how the principles will take - looking at government programmes that look

like luxuries, like ID cards, and we will set out more examples over the next year.

"We also need to look at the whole culture of Whitehall, and need to ensure that public sector pay properly reflects the state of the economy.

"And particularly we need to look at the salaries of very highly paid people who, for example, run quangos."

Asked if this means capping public sector pay, he said: "In the next few years, whoever is in government, there is going to be a lack of money, but frontline people should get the support they need, instead of what I think you will get from the Labour Government - which will be real cuts in frontline services.

"Public sector management has to be more efficient. There is too much bureaucracy.

"And the people most frustrated by this are not those working in private sector jobs but those in the public sector."

• *See the business supplement for more on Mr Osborne's visit.*

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Ice cream van orchestra takes some licking

AN UNUSUAL musical act using the distinctive tones of ice cream vans is going on the road after a sensational debut at a seaside festival last year.

The brainwave of artists Chris Yates, from Whitstable, and Kelvin Pawsey, from Folkestone, it uses six ice cream vans to create a mouthwatering symphony.

They melted hearts at the Whitstable Biennale festival and caught the eye of leading promoters who are now booking the colourful vans for their events.

Dubbed the Fleet Ice Cream Orchestra, it was one of the star attractions of the Biennale – a major festival of contemporary

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

art that takes place every two years in the town.

The vans play a specially created six-part composition written by Mr Pawsey for the ice cream van horn – and they usually hand out free ices, too.

They can perform a 10-minute ensemble piece, originally composed and recorded on a Pixiephone children's toy from the 1960s.

The artists enlisted the help of Honour's Ice Cream, which provided the traditional vans and drivers for the concert.

Initially the performance was planned as a one-off, but it proved so successful galleries



and venues throughout the UK have commissioned more performances.

The latest was last Sunday at a gallery in Toynbee Street, London, as the finale of the 2009 Whitechapel Gallery Street Project.

Sue Jones, director of the Whitstable Biennale, is delighted artwork which was initiated in Kent now has a life of its own. She said: "I'm thrilled that works commissioned by the Biennale are gaining recognition."

Chris Yates said: "The support of Whitstable Biennale means a lot to us. Otherwise, this would have remained only an idea – and look what has happened since."

"We're really excited to be touring the Ice Cream Orchestra. Now anything looks possible. I'd love to take it around the world."

The secret of the ice cream orchestra is the uniquely tinny sound of the vehicle's Grampian Horn loudspeakers. They are pointed at the road to disperse the sound.

The orchestra was formed following the culmination of a long period of research by the artists into the ice cream trade.

Ms Yates attended the annual trade fair and was invited to take part as a judge in the 2008 national ice cream awards.

She said: "I have always been fascinated by the ice cream industry and have discovered many wonderful things. For example, did you know it takes approximately 50 licks to finish off a scoop of ice cream?"

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Driver caught with £2.5m of ecstasy at port is jailed

A TRUCKER caught at Dover docks with 165kg of ecstasy pills worth almost £2.5 million has been jailed for 16 years.

Leong Paul, 56, was stopped at the port and a search uncovered the illegal cargo in 11 boxes.

Canterbury Crown Court was told he picked up the Class A drug from a service stop near Antwerp, Belgium, and headed for Kent in April 2007.

The jury found him guilty of smug-

gling. Sentencing, Judge Adele Williams told Paul, from Newport, he had attempted to smuggle a drug capable of causing serious harm or even death.

She said: "I am going to treat you as a courier tempted by the promise of money promised by others."

Malcolm Bragg, assistant director criminal investigation for Customs, said outside the court: "Paul's only consideration was self enrichment by

flooding the streets with ecstasy tablets. It was only through a detailed and professional investigation that claims he was unaware of the stash were proved false."

In interviews he denied all knowledge of the tablets, saying he had driven direct from Germany.

But traces on mobile phone calls and a check on his vehicle's tachograph proved he was lying and had stopped at Antwerp.

Cricket great Gooch quick off the mark

FORMER England cricketer Graham Gooch is backing an event hosted by morris dancers to fund an old soldier's charity trek across the Pyrenees.

The sporting legend captained the national team and scored a world-record 333 in a Lord's Test against India in 1999.

Now he has added his support to Woodchurch Morris Men's Jig For Victory night at the Bonny Cravat pub, which in turn is backing Woodchurch villager Denis Frain.

He is due to take part in a gruelling four-day trek to raise money for the Royal British Legion. Mr Gooch has donated an autographed copy of the historic scorecard of his 333 innings plus a video of the highlights of the Test series.

During the evening, near Ashford, there will be a barbecue as well as the opportunity to try morris dancing for a charitable donation.

More information is available from Dave Comley on 01233 860861.

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Stalwart socialist says banks must be publicly owned



BIG BENN: Tony joined Labour in 1942 and served under Wilson and Callaghan

Veteran Benn says the fight will never end

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

"THERE will be no final victory and no final defeat" is the historical perspective on the economic crisis offered by veteran Labour politician Tony Benn.

The staunch socialist and anti-war campaigner, who is now president of the Stop the War Coalition, spoke to Kent on Sunday ahead of his appearance at the Gulbenkian Theatre in Canterbury yesterday.

As a long-time grassroots activist he champions pressuring the establishment from the bottom up, and he promised the evening would be one of discussion and questioning.

"It is a very open thing," he said. "I say enough to get it started on things like unemployment, homelessness, war and Europe, in order that everyone can collect their thoughts."

"Then everyone puts their ideas forward. The media and political leaders underestimate everyone's intelligence, but people have very shrewd points to make and I find it extremely interesting."

Mr Benn joined the Labour Party in 1942. He was a cabinet minister during the governments of Harold Wilson and James Callaghan from 1964 to 1979, and he retired in 2001 as the longest serving Labour MP. At a time of rising unemployment and growing

fears over redundancy and the level of debt the Government has locked the country into, he spoke about the changes in the party in relation to the current economic crisis.

"When Tony Blair became leader in 1994 he said New Labour is a new party and it was based really on Margaret Thatcher's ideas," he said.

"She once said her greatest achievement was New Labour. This huge economic crisis is a result of the policies of both Thatcher and Blair – leaving everything to the market, that businessmen know best – and we have found that it was a sort of casino. People are now paying a very high price for that."

Burden

"There is unemployment in the building industry, yet a lot of people need new homes. A lot of money is being spent on the war, but not enough on health and education. People are beginning to ask questions now, fundamental questions."

Mr Benn – who in his long parliamentary career held the positions of minister of technology, secretary of state for both industry and energy, and postmaster general – said he been

through recessions before.

He was looking forward to some lively debate, with his insistence that banks should be nationalised and that the top rate of tax announced in the Budget did not go far enough.

"The gap between rich and poor is wider than it ever was," he said. "This 50 per cent rate of tax, in 1945 Churchill had the top rate of tax at 95 per cent because in wartime people have to share the burden. So I think all the fuss is rather hysterical."

"Most people want the same thing – a good, well-paid job, a home, healthcare and education and not have to go to war. I think these arguments are beginning to come up and be discussed."

On the failed banking system, he said: "Banks are so important that they have to be publicly owned. You would not get a police force or fire department privately owned and banks are essential, so we cannot leave it to gamblers."

Insights

Asked if the recession was perhaps almost a good thing for the country in terms of bringing change, he said: "People always say that and I do not believe that if we smile through it will come right, but I do believe we can change it and make it better. It is the same battles again and again. There will be no final victory and no final defeat."

Gordon Brown must call a general election before May next year and everyone is keen to gain insights into when we are likely to go to the polls and if Labour can retain power.

Mr Benn said: "Journalists always ask me this and I always say your job is to predict the future, but my job is to influence it. I do not want to see a change of government, but I do want to see a change of policy."

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Visitors to be cut Down

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

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CHARLES Darwin's village home is proving so popular with tourists that English Heritage is considering limiting the number of visitors allowed through the front door

English Heritage, which runs Down House near Orpington, said the surge of interest in the great naturalist sparked by the bicentenary celebrations of his birth meant limits had to be considered.

"It is purely because it is a family home and the rooms are straining under the weight of interest due to the bicentenary," said a spokesman for the organisation that protects and promotes the country's historic environment. "Our new exhibition, which reopened in February after it was closed for a short while, has generated all sorts of regional, national and international media coverage and people are rushing down to see it. We are looking at placing limits on numbers."

He said an increase in tourists from America and Europe coming to the UK due to the weakened pound, and more English people taking their summer holiday at home this year, meant the situation could get worse.

"Yes, visitors could continue to increase," he said. "On Easter Monday over 800 people came, if that many were visiting your home you can imagine the pressure that can put on it."

English Heritage spent £1million revamping the house and many rare objects have been put on display for the first time.



POPULAR: Many personal items belonging to Charles Darwin are on display at Down House, which is being over run by visitors

The exhibition was opened to mark the 200th anniversary of Darwin's birth and the 150th year since the publication of *On the Origin of Species*, which was written at the house in Downe village.

KOS Media was given a preview of the exhibition at the place where so many important discoveries were made and which has been nominated as a World Heritage Site.

Newspapers and broadcasters from around the world also came to gain insights into how Darwin's theories of evolution were painstakingly researched and discovered.

There are notebooks and specimens from his

voyage on HMS Beagle, and visitors are told how he was a great man of letters, writing to experts and naturalists around the world about his discoveries and to ask their opinion.

Personal items, including his wife Emma's wedding ring and a writing box that belonged to his daughter before she died of scarlet fever aged 10, are also on display.

Down House is not the only historic British landmark straining under the pressure of too many visitors.

Highgate Cemetery in north London, the burial ground of historic figures including Karl Marx and George Eliot, is also feeling the

pressure after it was included in a list of the capital's 100 top tourist attractions by the mayor Boris Johnson. Tourists are already being turned away.

English Heritage said it was not yet sure how visitor numbers to Darwin's house would be restricted.

The spokesman added: "We are conscious that we want to keep an eye on the amount of visitors arriving at the house."

"We want people to enjoy it but we want to ensure people are not putting the house under too much pressure. At this stage we are just looking at placing limits."

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Helping dementia patients find memories

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

DEMENTIA patients will have their memories unlocked thanks to a new befriending project being piloted in Kent.

Volunteers will visit sufferers of the incurable mental disease and attempt to talk to them about what their lives were like before they fell ill.

The scheme is being run by the Caring All Together on Romney Marsh (CARM) charity in partnership with the Shepway and Ashford volunteer centres.

Wendy Weidner is the co-ordinator of the Our Memories Matter part of the project, which will involve the volunteers using 'memory triggers' to stimulate discussion.

She said: 'I think the common misconception is that if somebody has dementia, then they are no longer there. But that's not right because they're still inside.'

Disorders

'The facility to communicate may have gone, but by taking the time to sit with them and share photographs and personal items you can make a connection. That's the important thing.'

'People often say things like 'that's not my husband' but it is - he's still in there.'

Dementia is a term used to describe various

different brain disorders - including Alzheimer's disease and Korsakoff's syndrome - that have in common a loss of brain function that is usually progressive and eventually severe.

Especially in the later stages of the condition, sufferers may find themselves disorientated in terms of time and place, and may not recognise the people around them.

The pilot scheme, which is being funded by Kent County Council's social services department, aims to reduce isolation and improve the well-being of people with dementia in the community as well as those in residential care.

Mrs Weidner said: 'The project will be led by the people with dementia because they will all be at various stages of the disease and some people will take longer to recall things than others.'

'We already work with so many people that have dementia, but this extra funding will really help us train our volunteers and target the area a lot better.'

'Sometimes just sitting with a dementia patient is enough, and so far the pilot has been successful.'

'If it continues to be so, we will hopefully be able to roll it out across Kent.'

Benedict Potts, befriending co-ordinator at CARM, appealed for more people to join the project team.

She said: 'We're excited about this project and see it as a fantastic opportunity for anyone who wants to get out there and volunteer.'

'All volunteers will receive dementia training and ongoing support from project co-ordinators. It's a great way to make a difference in someone else's life.'

• Visit www.carmromneymarsh.co.uk for more information.



BREAST EFFORTS: Laddingford ladies will walk the streets of London during a night-time power walk to raise money for breast cancer charities

Bra-vo for charity walkers

A TEAM of residents from the village of Laddingford are set to take to the streets in their bras.

They will join 15,000 others in decorated undies to help raise £6 million in one night for breast cancer causes.

The team is made up by Julia Bridgewater, Karen Barclay, Jane Short and Clare Sender, and will be dressed in Garden of England themed bras.

The event takes place on in the heart of London on May 16 and is a power walk of just over 13 miles - the length of a half marathon.

Clare said: 'It is a long time since any of us have done any serious exercise. Now we get out two or three times weekly to pound the lanes around Laddingford and Yalding.'

'So far the other residents haven't had the benefit of seeing us in the attire we'll wear on the evening. We might cause a bit of traffic chaos if we don our decorated bras during daytime training.'

And Julia added: 'Our friends and family have been very generous and we hope other people in the

area will sponsor us if they can.'

'Even a few pounds will make a huge difference and mean vital breast cancer research and breast cancer projects can continue to support the one in eight women who will experience some form of breast cancer in their lifetime.'

• *Anyone wanting to sponsor the women from the village near Maidstone can do so by visiting their online fundraising page at www.justgiving.com/laddingfordladies.*

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Industry insists there's a budget for wind farms

BUSINESS partners behind London Array, the world's largest offshore wind farm planned between Kent and Essex, have welcomed Government proposals to increase incentives for the industry, *writes Tony Patey*.

Chancellor Alistair Darling announced in his Budget that £525 million will be available for offshore wind farms – and the industry says that's enough to save several projects, including the London Array, from being scaled down or scrapped.

The London Array, which would eventually be the world's first 1GW offshore wind farm, has three shareholders.

Danish-owned DONG Energy owns a half, German-owned E.ON has 30 per cent and Abu Dhabi-based Masdar has 20 per cent.

E.ON UK chief executive Paul Golby said the incentives would "help transform wind power in the UK".

The partners say they're now awaiting the findings of the Government's review and consultation process, and proposals will help boost the economics of the London Array scheme and its commercial viability.

In a statement they said they will now conclude their review processes "before making an announcement on the final investment decision for the first phase in the near future".

Dr Wulf Bernotat, chief executive of E.ON in Germany, said: "The enhanced incentives will help transform the industry and improve the economics for the pioneering London Array.

"The Government's decision recognises the difficulties energy companies face when they want to build offshore wind farms.

"We feel optimistic about the future of the offshore wind industry in the UK and the London Array scheme."

Conference pears science with fruit

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

chris.murphy@kosmedia.co.uk

TECHNOLOGY costing £30,000 is being used by horticultural scientists to perfect a new way of growing pears.

The density of planting is the secret – and success would mean being able to produce more fruit per hectare.

Scientists at East Malling Research are confident they have it cracked, using skills pioneered in Holland.

They are concentrating on the Conference pear – one of Britain's favourite varieties.

Now an orchard at its facilities is set to deliver 55 tonnes of pears per hectare within one more year.

That – compared with around 22 tonnes using more traditional methods – is being hailed as a major breakthrough.

The answer appears on the surface to be a simple one. Traditional orchards rely on rainwater, but using specific irrigation systems, tree density can be increased.

The trees are then grown in a V-shape using highly targeted pruning. This leaves only branches that provide fruit and max-



TECHNIQUE: Irrigation and pruning will enable a higher density of pears to grow

imises the amount of light hitting each and every branch.

Pear orchards are in decline in the Garden of England because of the expense and time taken to mature. But using this new method to grow more in the same area will increase profits as older trees come to the end of their natural life spans.

Chris Atkinson, the EMR head of science said: "What we are doing is growing trees at a much greater density than normal. This will create much higher production levels.

"Correct irrigation is vital, along with the way we train the trees to maximise yield.

"High density systems require a lot of investment, but the beauty of this system is that you get a return much more rapidly.

"Normally you would wait maybe a generation for a pear orchard to reach its maximum cropping. Whereas here, we are expecting a crop next year, and we expect it to reach maximum cropping within five years."

EMR chief executive Dr Colin Gutteridge said: "The British Conference pear industry is under threat as apples mature and produce commercial crops in three to four years.

"This new pear orchard will demonstrate how UK growers can improve the commercial viability of home-grown Conference pears. By increasing UK yields we will be able to reduce dependence upon imports and make significant environmental savings."

EMR chairman Dr Oliver Doubleday, a grower from Sittingbourne, added: "The quality is going to be superb. This system maximises the capture of sunlight so the fruit has all the advantages of photosynthesis."

Sainsbury's and Chingford Fruit Ltd are backing the research.



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Mon 11th	Afternoon Cite Europe	£13.00	£10.00			ADULT	CHILD
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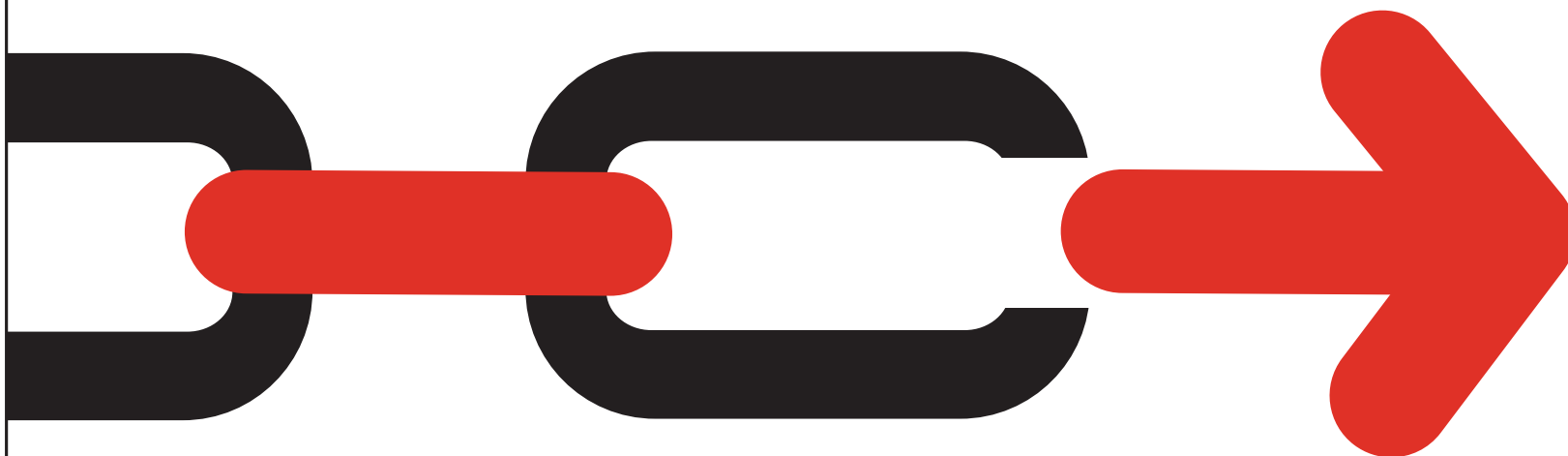
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Cabbie is beaten in savage attack

A TAXI driver suffered a broken nose, bruising and black eyes in a vicious assault by two men.

The pair jumped into the front passenger seat of the 46-year-old driver's cab outside the Crown pub in Perry Street, Northfleet.

One head-butted the cabbie and tried to throttle him while the other lashed out with his fists. The attack happened between 10.30-10.50pm on Friday, April 24.

Both men are white and in their early to mid twenties. One is of medium build with cropped brown hair and has a London accent. He was wearing a light T-shirt and has tattoos on his arms. Call Det Con Manraj Sanghere on 01474366 090 or 07807 340176, or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111 if you can help.



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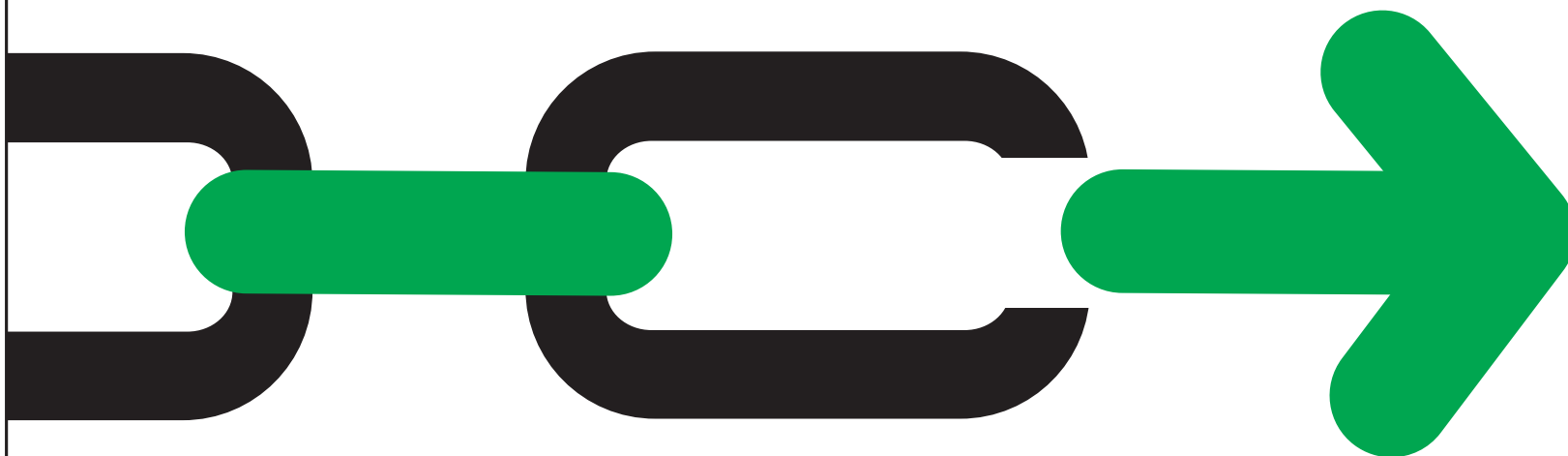
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By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

RECORD numbers of girls are joining Kent Scouts – and it's because they're developing a taste for adventure.

And while the organisation has also seen an increase in volunteer leaders, the waiting list for Kent troops is at an all-time high with 2,300 names.

For both genders, Maidstone has seen a rise of 7.5 per cent in new members, while Deal is up 7.6 per cent, Canterbury 3.5 per cent, and Medway 3.4 per cent. Meanwhile, Bromley has seen its biggest rise in recruitment for 22 years.

Overall, female membership in the county has risen by a healthy 12.7 per cent.

To help cope with the influx, which has taken the total number of Scouts in Kent to 17,762, there has been a four per cent rise in adults joining as leaders, the fastest increase in 23 years, and that includes women leaders.

The movement said there has been a surge of more than 270 new girl Scouts and they now make up more than 27 per cent of the total. The reason for the sudden influx is simple, said Scout spokesman John Hunt – adventure.

He said: "Our range of activities is partic-

Huge rise in recruitment reported by movement

ularly appealing to girls who can't find enough adventure in organisations such as the Guides and the Girls' Brigade.

"They enjoy canoeing and climbing and are particularly good at hiking. Those, in a nutshell, are the core activities in Scouting."

He said Scouting helps young people achieve their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

Other activities include glider flights and water sports.

Chief Scout Peter Duncan said: "Adults who volunteer get just as much out of Scouting as young members."

"Not only is it rewarding to see young people having fun and getting to try new things, but adult volunteers get to participate as well and they are being active members of their community."

"Volunteers aren't just giving something back to society, they are getting the opportu-

nity to develop transferable skills such as leadership and motivational skills.

"Volunteering is much, much more than a hobby or an extra-curricular activity. We can see more adults adopting this view – with our biggest growth in adult membership for 20 years."

Emma Davey, from Dartford, said: "I thoroughly enjoy being a Scout leader. I got started because I wanted to get involved in the community to meet new people."

"I don't think there is a 'typical' leader; everyone has their own way of doing things, but I think all leaders can learn a lot."

"I really value the skills I've picked up while doing this – skills I've been able to use at work. It's also tremendously rewarding to see how much young people enjoy Scouting and how much they are actually learning each week."

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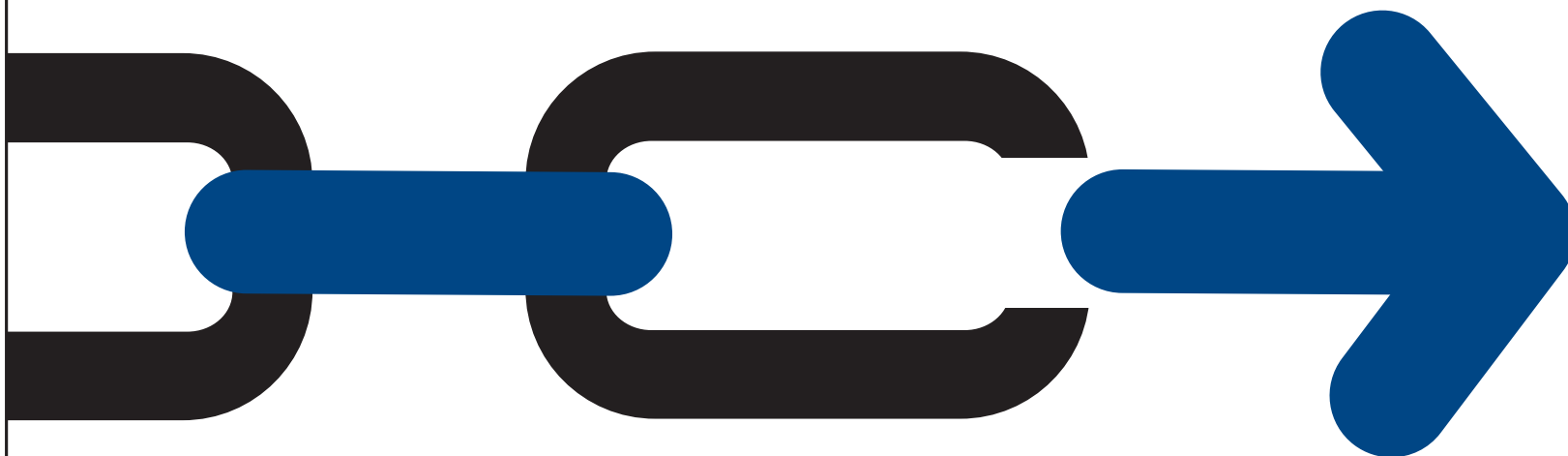
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MANN Countrywide

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

A HEALTHY living and wellbeing community centre has been praised by a Government minister as one of eight "national stars".



HAZEL BLEARS:
Impressed

The Sunlight Development Trust in Gillingham was said to be at the forefront of a revolution to recycle local buildings for the benefit of the community.

The centre, which opened in 2003, houses six voluntary organisations, more than 100 local groups, a large medical centre, a family centre and a pharmacy.

It also has a café, music studio, radio station, community hall, complemen-

Healthy ray of Sunlight starts local revolution

Blears praises pioneering community trust project

tary therapies and meeting rooms.

It has been used as a model for other partnership projects and won backing from communities secretary Hazel Blears on Monday at the launch of a new scheme called asset transfer unit. The aim is to help local projects take control of empty buildings to benefit the community.

"For too long, too many people have not even seen it as an option to take control of a community asset. And when they have, it has felt like an endurance test," Mrs Blears said.

"We want to change the odds in their favour. People can learn from the experience of the team behind Sunlight. That will be crucial in helping pave the way for a revolution to recycle these buildings.

"They have set the standard and are an essential resource for those wanting to follow in their footsteps. From today there is a national advice line, backed by experts at local and national level, helping to guide people through financial and planning barriers.

"People may be surprised that it is more

achievable than they think."

Peter Holbrook, the trust's chief executive, said it was a complete surprise that the Communities and Local Government Department was going to name the Sunlight trust as an example of excellent practice.

"This idea is very much about local people," he said. "It is to give them pride in their area, to identify problems but also solutions.

"We are all local people who have come together to improve our community, which is less affluent than most in Kent.

"Things are not easy in north Kent and Medway as a whole, but we are trying to create the sorts of services and opportunities that help people take control of their lives."

The centre offers a range of services including training, a community radio station, social events for the elderly and extra lessons for schoolchildren.

Mr Holbrook said: "Everything we do is linked to health – from the environment, the curriculum, income, jobs and it means we can work very holistically. Our purpose is to improve health and wellbeing and that does impact on everything."

Since the centre had opened the profile of health in Gillingham had improved, he said.

"That does not just mean we are well intended we have achieved something."

Mr Holbrook said the centre catered for people of all ages, cultures and faiths, and that had created a much more cohesive community, where people are much more tolerant and understanding. He added: "Older residents have changed their perceptions of the young, attitudes have changed and people are far more accepting. Older people feel safe on the streets."

Mrs Blears said the asset transfer unit would give people the information they need to get through any legal, planning and financial barriers to set up community projects such as the Sunlight trust.

She said local authorities could give people real power by handing over buildings as a gift to a community group, selling at below market price or keeping the building off the market while a local project develops plans and secures funding. Nationally, more than £1 billion of buildings are now under community control.

For more information, call the national advice line on 0845 345 4564.

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CHRIS BRITCHER
CAMPAIGN EDITOR
chris.britcher@kosmedia.co.uk

Follow the seasons for a delicious experience

OVER the past few years there has been a distinct rise in the quality and availability of top-class home grown vegetables, meat, fish and fruit.

Farmers have raised their game in the face of stiff competition and pressure from supermarket chains.

For me, running three restaurants in Kent, it is vital I receive the best food and it's great to know I can support local farmers and the local economy by buying local produce.

It's not just about buying local for the sake of it. I need the best quality in my restaurants because that's what customers expect, and to be honest I would not work with anything less.

Locality is only a part of the equation though, the best tastiest food is that which is being grown right now and seasonality is the key to not only eating the best but also diversifying our menus and diets.

You may have heard people complain that fresh food doesn't taste like it did years ago. Much of the reason for this is due to the fact you are eating produce that has travelled thousands of miles packed in crates in cold storage, farmed in countries where we have no control over the growing process, and often using strains of produce that do not have the taste of our own food.

By eating food out of season you are diminishing the experience. The reason people think food used to taste so much better is we used to only eat foods when they were in season. By buying local, seasonal food you will begin to notice a return of flavour.

With spring well and truly set now is the time when we are going to be seeing the very best produce, meats and fish. Spring is one of the county's most colourful seasons, bringing richness in variety, taste and fortunately availability.

It's a time when we should be making the most of new season fruits, vegetables, meats and fish. The good thing about making the most of the plentiful availability of new season produce is that the prices are also keener; you'll notice this reflected in the price you pay at the till.

Seasonality and making meals from food in plentiful supply has, due to the advent of supermarkets stocking their shelves with processed food, become something of a lost way of eating. The impact this has had on local farming has meant we often sacrifice freshness and taste for accessibility. Convenience is one thing but when items which we can grow seasonally – and often, better and tastier – are shipped halfway around the world after being picked days and sometimes weeks beforehand, we have to begin to question if it really is the best way.

For me, especially in my restaurants, taste and freshness is vital and the simple answer is to buy good local produce which has been picked often only the day before and transported just a few miles instead of hundreds or even thousands of miles.

This month one of my favourite vegetables is in season and it is without doubt one of the most versatile and arguably the

He's one of the rising stars on the celebrity chef scene and has already come out in support of our Buy Local Produce campaign. Now Richard Phillips, who grew up in Rainham and lives near Maidstone, writes for KOS Media in the first of a series of regular features, supporting our campaign and our website, www.foodforkent.co.uk.



best of all the English vegetables, I am talking about asparagus.

The season doesn't last for long, so let's make the most of this great vegetable that is grown all over Kent. When looking to purchase asparagus go for the medium-sized stems as they have had enough time to take on the flavour but not too much time to become tough.

Fresh asparagus can make the perfect accompaniment to any main course and works equally well with fresh fish or meat. The new season also brings a fresh crop of new potatoes and in the next couple of weeks we have the arrival of spring lamb and Kentish crabs to look forward to.

The dish I have prepared this week is warm poached salmon,

Kentish asparagus and warm new potato salad. This is a quick and easy dish to prepare but guaranteed to treat your taste buds to a range of subtle and strong flavours, making the most of our local produce.

All of the ingredients used in the recipe are available from the foodforkent.co.uk website. If you have any questions relating to the recipes or food in general, or just want some tips in preparing food I would love to answer them. Write to me direct at the newspaper or send an email to richard.phillips@kosmedia.co.uk.

Richard Phillips



Poached salmon, asparagus and warm new potato salad

150g piece of fresh salmon fillet
Cooking liquor for the salmon: 500ml water, 100ml Tenterden Chapel Down white wine, half a lemon juiced, 5 peppercorns, 8 parsley stalks
4 Kentish asparagus spears (peeled and cooked, in boiling salted water)
5 medium sized Jersey new potatoes
Teaspoon chopped chives
Teaspoon chopped shallots
50g rocket salad (washed)
5 yellow cherry tomatoes (cut in to halves)
10 green beans, cooked in boiling water
Vinaigrette: 150ml of olive oil, 50ml of white wine vinegar, 25ml luke warm water, teaspoon of honey, teaspoon grain mustard

Place the mustard and honey in a bowl, whisk in the vinegar, slowly add the olive oil, then finely add the water; season with salt and pepper

Bring the cooking liquor for the salmon to the boil. Place the salmon into the liquid and turn off the heat, leave to stand for 4-5min. Remove from the cooking liquid, remove skin and flake into nice chunky pieces.

Slice the cooked potatoes and mix with the chopped chives, shallots and a few drops of the dressing season, cover with cling film and keep warm. Mix the rocket leaves with the dressing just before serving

Place the warm potatoes into the centre of the plate, then place the green beans and tomatoes on top then the rocket leaves, then the warm flaked salmon, arrange the asparagus spears and drizzle with the dressing.



TASTY: See celebrity chef Richard Phillips in conversation at www.yourkenttv.co.uk. Search 'Richard'



foodforkent.co.uk

We are committed to adding more local suppliers to our online service and any local business or producer that wishes to join our campaign should contact us at foodforkent.co.uk or email us at feedback@kosmedia.co.uk

KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

Grammars hit by rebuild projects

AT FIRST glance the Building Schools for the Future scheme seems like a fantastic one, and for many reasons it is.

The promise of new state-of-the-art classrooms is an exciting one for teachers and pupils throughout the country, but perhaps the true cost of these developments is only now beginning to come to light.

According to education expert Peter Read, the building schemes will cut places from already oversubscribed grammar schools in Gravesham and Thanet as a way to accommodate the new buildings.

This year's admissions process was a controversial one, with children in the west being offered spots at schools on the other side of the county after missing out on their choices.

And if Mr Read is to be believed – and there is no reason why he shouldn't be – the problem will be even bigger once the Building Schools for the Future scheme is complete.

KCC has said all children who pass the 11-plus are entitled to a grammar school place, but "entitled" does not mean "guaranteed" and it looks like some may miss out again.

Enjoy the beach

THE town may not be known for its soaring temperatures, but Gravesend's once popular beach is on its way back.

The shingle strip is being returned as part of a £2 million scheme to upgrade the area, and will surely be welcomed by sun-seekers when the weather is nice. On the down side, how many days a year will that be?

OPINION:

Brown's kukri lesson

The Government has learned the hard way that our bond with the Gurkhas transcends petty rules, says Peter Carroll



THE defeat of the Government on Wednesday on the issue of Gurkha settlement rights was the most spectacular and significant moment in a long campaign that has seen more than its fair share of disappointment.

However, due to our strangely undemocratic 'democracy', the battle may not yet be totally won. Amazingly, and disturbingly, the Government's first reactions to its defeat appear to suggest that it may still not fundamentally address the issue and give equal settlement rights to Gurkhas who retired before 1997 to those enjoyed by post-1997 retirees.

A week earlier, the Government had an opportunity to right this injustice. Instead, it announced a set of harsh criteria for pre-1997 retirees that most Gurkhas could never hope to meet. For example, one of the criteria is that a Gurkha would have had to serve 20 years. The majority are engaged for 15 years and are discouraged from extending their service unless they have risen through the ranks. The new criteria were mean-spirited and even a casual observer would suspect they had been deliberately engineered to sound generous but in reality let in very few additional Gurkhas.

This dismal announcement unleashed an outpouring of public anger. Even we were amazed by how suddenly the public mood changed from a determined desire to change the system to

outright anger. Such was the mood swing that enough Labour MPs rebelled and the Opposition Day motion on Wednesday had the momentum to get through.

The campaign has harnessed the support of hundreds of thousands of people from every walk of life and every political persuasion. Joanna Lumley's family ties to the Gurkhas have given the campaign a special resonance with that generation whose fathers, grandfathers, brothers and uncles served and fought alongside the Gurkhas. These men returned with tales of Gurkha valour and were universal in their praise and admiration for the Nepalese soldiers.

Those of us at the heart of the campaign still struggle to understand why the upper echelons of the Ministry of Defence and some of our senior politicians fail to grasp the nature of this issue. They seem to focus on it as a matter of immigration policy or a matter of economics and finance.

They express concern that letting all retired Gurkhas have the right to settle here will set a

precedent for similar groups. In all these matters, they miss the point. The bond with the Gurkhas is not a set of treaties or immigration rules. It is a bond forged in the crucible of war and conflict. The idea of a precedent is misplaced. There simply is no other group of people that in any way could be compared to the Gurkhas. The fact that we have had to drag the Government kicking and screaming through the courts and Parliament continues to be a PR disaster for them. This is doubly frustrating as, to be fair, the Blair government was the only government to start addressing this issue when it ruled in 2004 that pre-1997 British Army Gurkhas should have the right to settle here.

The reluctance to address the matter of those who retired before 1997 has overshadowed these initial praiseworthy moves. They cannot accept that the bombs and the bullets were no different after 1997 than they were before. The same can be said of the courage and the bravery of the Gurkha soldiers. It has

been constant, irrespective of date or where the Gurkhas were based. The idea that 100,000 retired Gurkhas (including their dependants) would come to the UK and cost £1.5 billion appear to be the central planks of the Government's opposition to our campaign. These figures amount to scaremongering and do not stand up to examination. In 2004, when the Government announced Gurkhas who retired after 1997 could settle, they announced that those who retired before could apply if they wished. The number of applicants was about 1,350.

Our best estimate is that even if the 1997 cut-off date is removed, the number likely to come is between 4,000 and 6,000. These are tiny in comparison to normal immigration into the UK.

We all hope the Government, in the light of this profound defeat in the Commons, do the right thing and let the Gurkhas in.

• **Peter Carroll is a Lib Dem councillor in Shepway and a member of the Gurkha Justice Campaign.**

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Crossing so congested

It is typical whingeing by Tory councillors not wanting changes for the better regarding proposals for the construction of a new Dartford crossing. The congestion is absolutely appalling. People who have to bear this have my sympathy. Of course we should have another crossing, the pollution pumped out by vehicles is getting worse by the day.

With a new crossing traffic would flow quicker and not have to remain stationary, belching out poisonous fumes. I agree it should be toll free, that in itself would relieve the build up of traffic, especially at rush hour.

Come on, Tory councillors, get with it, try to move with times. Think of the jobs it would create. By the way, I think your newspaper is great. The layout is excellent, the typeface is lovely and clear and easy to read.

The reporting ain't half bad, either.

RC Priggen, Westgate-on-Sea

Better late than never

I fully agree Gurkha soldiers should be allowed to stay here when they retire.

I am pleased to see Margaret Thatcher now supports this. It is rather unfortunate that she did not take that view when she was Prime Minister.

David Burgess, Hawkhurst

Too near the knuckle

I am one of the 60 people who complained about the Pfizer 'regurgitated rat' cinema advert. I found it unnecessary and offensive.

I did not complain because of the shock tactics, only because my daughter is on Warfarin, a medicine used in humans to thin the blood, but which is also used as a rat poison. The rat being pulled out of a mouth was too near the knuckle for her.

I agree shock tactics are needed to stop people buying medication from unknown

Narrow-minded Adonis

Last week's announcement by transport minister Lord Adonis in which he short-listed his preferred plans for improving conditions at the Dartford Crossing has, understandably, caused concern.

Narrowing the original options to just three – all of which involve another crossing close to the present one – does not really begin to address the problem.

Most of us have experienced the effect of the crossing as a bottleneck on the M25. This is not helped by the northbound lanes still having to squeeze into the two original tunnels. Moving the toll booths, or scrapping the charges, will do little to alleviate the congestion. Similarly, building an additional crossing close to the present one will mean the whole area is still the only convenient way of crossing the river and

the bottleneck effect will continue – but on a larger scale. Surely, the logical solution has always been, to encourage traffic away from Dartford by building an alternative crossing further downriver. This would also open up an often neglected area of Kent and allow easier access to a much bigger part of Essex. Unfortunately this option was rejected by the minister, mainly on the basis of cost.

However, considering the cost to the country in terms of wasted hours and tons of pollution, the price of building a bridge nearer the Estuary might seem to be more of a bargain. Sometimes when faced with an insurmountable problem, you need to make an innovative decision.

Simon Pearce, Candy Carriers, Sittingbourne

sources, but please, spare a thought for those people who, through no fault of their own, have to take rat poison daily. My daughter does not have a choice about taking her medication, the people the advert is aimed at do.

Sandra Jeffery, by email

Bolt holes and potholes

MPs should not receive free homes from taxpayers which they walk away with when they leave the job. Each constituency should provide a small residence – in London and in the

seat – for their MP which is vacated and reused by succeeding MPs. With regards potholes, these cost motorists money in terms of worn tyres (tyres cannot be recycled and are a major cause of illegal dumping). In theory, county council insurance should pay the cost of damaged tyres. In practice, it is better to inform KCC of potholes on routes you use and if they are not dealt with quickly, report them again. KCC may think leaving potholes saves money but this is not true. I've spent £100 on two front tyres this year due to potholes damaging the 'tracking' on my car.

Ivan Armstrong, Meopham

YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

Misleading on merger

We write concerning a serious factual error in last week's story headlined 'Improving college can merge, says Whitehall'.

In essence, the Government has not given its approval to the planned merger. It has agreed that the proposal for a merger may be formally put forward.

This is only the beginning; if agreement is given for the proposal to progress, a wide process of consultation will follow.

Only if support is given through the consultation and other processes will the minister consider whether or not to agree to the merger.

In time scale terms, the earliest date by which the process could be complete and the decision to allow the merger could be made would be early in 2010.

Valerie Stead, chair of governors, West Kent College

Another divisive exam

Mr Cheverst has responded twice to my letter about admissions to secondary school. He criticises my failure to mention the International Baccalaureate (IB) at all levels and the supposed weakness of GCSE.

It is irrelevant to school admissions, but here goes anyway.

I agree with Mr Cheverst, the IB is a very good exam, the syllabus is stimulating and demanding; children would learn a lot and enjoy their learning. What Mr Cheverst doesn't mention is that the IB is incredibly expensive in fees, materials and, above all, in teacher time. Many schools have considered it, but only those schools with rich foundations or fees behind them, whether state or private, can afford it. Sadly, the IB is destined to be another social divide.

Martin Frey, Stop The Eleven Plus, Appledore

Letters continued on page 42

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For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

BIRTHS

ANSON

Lee and Anna are proud to announce the birth of their first born son Shaun Howard Anson born on 24th April 2009 weighing 6lb 10oz.

BAIGENT

Lauren Jean born on 18th April 2009, weighing 8lbs 9oz. Daughter to Carl and Emma in Westgate-on-Sea. Mummy and Daddys special little "stargazer".

BARNES

Ellie Louise born on the 21st April 2009, weighing 8lbs 3ozs. Daughter to Kayleigh and Oliver of Folkestone.

CHAPMAN

Billy-Jo Reed and Aaron Chapman celebrate the birth of their son Bobby-Lee Nicholas Martin Chapman born on 12th April 2009, weighing 9lb 9oz. Brother to Rhiley-Aaron Joseph Chapman.

COLES

Nikki and Chris of Broadstairs are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Claudia Stevenson Coles, born on 16 April 2009.

COWAN

Connor Jacob born on 22nd April 2009, weighing 6lbs 15oz. Son to Lindsay Fry and Robert Cowan in Dover.

DE SOUSA

Jose and Cindy are pleased to announce the arrival of Joshua James De Sousa born on 13th April 2009, weighing 9lbs 1oz at William Harvey Hospital. Jose and Jessica are very excited about their new baby brother.

DEAL

Kelly and Lance of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of their son Owen Lee Deal, born on 23 April 2009 at QEQM. Brother to Logan.

DEANS

Thomas Samuel born on 19th April 2009, weighing 7lbs 5oz. Son to Rosalyn and Peter Deans in Dover.

EDWARDS

Erin Leni born on the 11th April 2009 weighing 8lbs 14ozs. Sister to Craig and Curtis and daughter to Johanna and Russell of Hythe. XXXX

EVERSON

John and Julia of Aldington are pleased to announce the birth of their beautiful son Frederick Paul George Everson, born on 16th April 2009. A brother to Isabel and Phoebe. Loved and welcomed by us all.

FROST

Grace Catherine born on 20th April 2009, weighing 8lb 8oz. Daughter to Hayley and Simon Frost in Aylesford.

FULLER-CAMPLING

Harvey James born on 21st April 2009, weighing 7lbs 7ozs. Son to Jodie and Philip of Margate. Our most beautiful and precious son.

GADD

Isabella Charlotte Louise Gadd born 10th April 2009 at 1.54 pm weighing 5lb 6oz Daughter to Benjamin Gadd and Victoria Mann. Our precious little early bird.

GOODSON

Tania and Dean are proud to announce the birth of their son Lincoln Kade born on 19th April 2009, weighing 7lb 13oz. Brother to Taylor of Staplehurst.

GRAHAM

Trevor and Natalie Graham celebrate the birth of their son Joshua Terence Graham on 10th April 2009 weighing 7lb 10oz.

HARDY

Ellamay Hardy was born on 11th April 2009, weighing 8lb 15oz. Daughter to Karen and Graham in Medway.

HUNT

Hettie Mabel born on 22nd April 2009, weighing 7lbs 7oz. Daughter to Neil and Teresa in Ramsgate. Our most beautiful and precious daughter.

KEENAGH

Heather and Mark Keenagh celebrate the birth of their son Taylor Brian Keenagh on 24th April 2009. Our most precious and beautiful son.

KNIGHTS-KENNEDY

Clifford and Gemma Knights-Kennedy of Folkestone celebrate the birth of their daughter Amber Lilly on the 20th April 2009.

LEE

Carrie and David Lee celebrate the birth of their daughter Lois Elizabeth Lee born on 9th April 2009, weighing 7lb 10z.

McGARRY

Helen and John McGarry are pleased to announce the arrival of Amelia Grace on the 24th April 2009 at 09:33am. Weighing 9lbs 7ozs.

MEDWYN

Mark and Siobhan celebrate the birth of Isla Mia Medwyn on 21st April 2009 weighing 6lbs 7oz. Special princess and sister to Rhys.

NEWBOLD

Ellen Ivy born on 20th April 2009 at 19:56, weighing 7lbs 15oz. Daughter to David and Joanna and sister to Anna in Sandling.

ROLFE

Ruby-Grace born on the 22nd April 2009 weighing 5lbs 10ozs. Daughter to Daniel and Emma of Folkestone.

SMITH

Martha May born on 17th April 2009, weighing 7lb 10oz. Daughter to John and Kelly and sister to Jasper Smith of Staplehurst.

TRIBLEY

Mark and Lucy of Swingfield are delighted to announce the early but safe arrival of their beautiful twin daughters, Ellen and Rose. Born on 22nd April 2009.

WARD

Casey John Ward born on the 8th April 2009 weighing 7lbs 7ozs. Son to Janine and Simon Ward of Folkestone.

WESTBROOK

Mark and Tina are pleased to announce the birth of their son Ashley James Westbrook, born on 20th April 2009 weighing 9lbs 8oz. A brother to Luke Harvey Westbrook.

WILKINSON

Kiri-Leigh born on 19th April 2009, weighing 9lbs 5oz. Daughter to Craig and Lydia in Ramsgate. Mummy and Daddys special little angel.

WOOD

Cassie Jane born 24th April 2009, weighing 7lbs 13ozs. Daughter to Sarah and Mark of Ramsgate. Mummy and Daddys beautiful princess.

DEATHS

CARPENTER

Richard Carpenter passed away peacefully on April 23rd 2009. Dearly beloved husband, son, Father, Grandfather and friend to many. You will always be missed. Rest in peace.

DIXON

Ina, passed away peacefully in her sleep on 20th April 2009. A much loved mother, grandmother and great grannie. Together at last with her beloved Dixie. Forever in our hearts Morag, Liz, Jim, grandchildren Louise, Graham, Charlotte, Rebecca, Ben and Gemma and her eight great grandchildren. Cremation to be held at Barham on Friday 1st May 2009 at 10.40 a.m. No flowers. Donations if desired to Pilgrims Hospice Canterbury c/o C W Lyons.

McCRERIE

Alan McCrerie died peacefully on 23rd April 2009. Funeral service on 7th May 2009 at 11.30am St Peters Church Aylesford. In loving memory of Husband, Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad.

MOORE

Ann Moore nee Dobson of Sturry passed away 25th April 2009. A loving wife, mum, nan, sister and auntie who will be sadly missed by all of her family. The funeral will take place at Barham Crematorium on 7th May at 3.20pm. Family flowers only please.

PARKS

In memory of our dear Mum Mary Barbara Parks of Sandwich Kent, who sadly died at QEQM on Friday 24th April 2009. Greatly missed by husband Ray and children John, Shirley, Michael and Christopher. Daughters in law and son in law and Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren.

SWABEY

William James Swabey passed away 21st April 2009. Funeral service at Thanet Crematorium at 1.20 8th May 2009. Enquiries to Palmers Funeral Directors 01843 592720

Our beautiful island

I am rather annoyed that Kent County Council didn't have room to mention the Isle of Sheppey in its Around Kent magazine, and especially that Blue Town and Sheerness were not featured in information about the maritime history of Kent.

I also note that on Radio Kent recently a woman said more people will be visiting Kent's seaside resorts this year because of the credit crunch – even on the Isle of Sheppey, she laughed. How rude. Another time it was mentioned that Henry VIII – “believe it or not” – had a honeymoon on Sheppey. Again, how rude.

Most of the island is beautiful. Friends say: “Don’t tell anybody how nice it is to live here”, but it annoys me when people make derogatory remarks about Sheppey. I moved here from Bromley 30 years ago and would never, ever go back. That’s better, thanks.

Janet Osborn, by email

Independence day

What a tirade from Mr Murphy (Letters, April 19), we must have worried him. Ukip has always known we worry the Tories and now it appears Labour and in all probability the Lib Dems are also alarmed.

The Conservatives worry because they know many of their supporters agree with us on Europe and that they are beginning to realise they must put their cross in a different box.

Ukip's results in the 2004 European election gave all three main parties a surprise. They now need another. Since 1997, Labour has built on the foundations laid by Conservative administrations (Treaty of Rome, Single European Act, Maastricht Treaty). So criticism of Labour by the Tories (and vice versa) is a case of pots and kettles.

Come on, fellow countrymen, Englanders little and large, regardless of colour and creed, let's give them a kick where they deserve it and strike a blow for a return to a democratic self-government on June 4.

RM Higgins, Southborough

Sadists in our sights

I read with dismay and anger your recent story about cats being injured by air rifles. KOS Media reported similar incidents in Northfleet last September.

However, all is not lost. With luck, the sadistic toerags perpetrating these acts should engineer their own conviction for the following reasons.

Air rifles are only effective at short range (less than 40 metres), partly because of limited power (legally 12ft/lb maximum) and partly because the projectile is light and akin in aerodynamics to a badminton shuttle.

Cats do not often stray far from home. Consequently, as the shooting area seems small and the injuries to the cats severe, then the shooter is almost certainly living nearby and should be speedily identified by careful observation and collaboration.

Once identified, a fitting punishment would be for the perpetrator's rear end to be peppered with his own air rifle. It won't happen, of course, but nonetheless I hope the police and RSPCA press for the most serious charges.

RA Funnell, Northfleet

Legal, yes. Ethical, no

To deliberately inflict suffering on animals, for whatever reason, is definitely wrong in my opinion.

Research using vivisection comes in various ways, and the medical umbrella provides excellent cover for one and all. This is big business with numerous ruthless offshoots.

A gullible public is periodically brainwashed by vested interests. PR takes over and subtly pushes a new 'wonder drug' forward. Great care is taken to avoid mentioning the price paid in terms of pain and terror to produce it. Forget that. Many charitable organisations (medical) do not support

research which involves vivisection.

Further details are available from Animal Aid (01732 364546).

To Mr Browne and his 'Pro-Test' group, trying to justify something which is morally wrong is not easy. Legal it may be, but that is no recommendation.

Mary McNulty, Brenchley, Tonbridge.

Ukip the real solution

Ukip is not xenophobic. Ukip does not loathe the EU, just its corruption and current form. Ukip does not condone terrorism. Ukip is not misogynistic. Ukip does not deny climate change.

Ben Murphy (Letters, last week) says the “EU remains mankind's best hope for a solution”. A solution to what? The EU is an interfering, undemocratic organisation. Britain has lost national sovereignty despite what Mr Murphy says, since three quarters of all our laws now come from Brussels. The UK doesn't need the EU.

We are quite capable of governing ourselves and trading with all nations. I now wish to point out some of the principles of the UK Independence Party. We are not far-right or xenophobic; we do not discriminate between African, European, Asian or American people. Genuine refugees would be permitted into this country as we are not without compassion and the persecuted must be given safe haven. However, allowing all European citizens into the UK without control of numbers or assessment is irresponsible and destroying our green space.

The cost to our schools and health service must also be considered. Ukip does not condone terrorism. The fact someone stated he understands why we are targeted for terrorism shows intelligence. I recently read that before the invasion of Iraq 80 per cent of Malaysians were pro-West. After the war only 20 per cent trusted the West. America and Britain mishandled Iraq and lost the respect of many people.

Ukip is not misogynistic. In our household, my wife is my equal. The secretary of Ukip in Thanet is a woman. Thanet North has a female candidate for the next general election. The woman who investigated the EU accounts joined Ukip. Women are important to Britain and are the backbone of Ukip Thanet. Ukip does not deny climate change. We have discussed the issue many times and would like to see solar panels on all new buildings, recycled water and better insulation. We want councils to take recycling seriously.

Trevor Cooper; Ukip Thanet

Churchill the European

Many people are affronted by the use of a caricature of Winston Churchill to launch the Ukip campaign for the elections on June 4. Because he was the only Western European leader to be part of the Big Three wartime meetings at Tehran, Yalta and Potsdam, he had a unique understanding of the complexities of post-war diplomacy and the role of Britain and Europe.

Between 1946 and 1950, he, more than any other statesman, pressed the case for European co-operation and unity. The European Movement was launched by Churchill's 1946 speech in Zurich and Churchill's son-in-law, Duncan Sandys, was its organiser. Churchill played a part in the early meetings of the Council of Europe and he was the key initiator of the Hague Conference of 1948, which aimed to create a united Europe. On the issue of national sovereignty, Churchill spoke of the need for sacrifice in the pursuit of economic and military co-operation.

Speaking at the Albert Hall in 1949, he told fellow Conservatives “there would be no hope for the world unless the peoples of Europe unite”.

He condemned the Labour government in 1950 for rejecting the Schuman Plan that was to lead to the setting up of the Common Market. It is certainly true that while in Government in the 1950s, this ultra-enthusiasm for European unity changed.

Letters continue on page 47

Letters continued from page 41

Doug out of a hole

I am sorry I got Doug Cheverst's first name incorrect in my last letter and apologise unreservedly to any Davids who may have been offended by this.

Mr Cheverst claims he wishes to see all children taught to the best of their ability, then suggests many are arriving at secondary school innumerate and illiterate, apparently indicating that they are not worth trying too hard over.

Grammar schools are anachronistic and divisive and leave the majority feeling they are failures.

Mr Cheverst says he wishes he had gone to

grammar school, so he must know just how it feels. I know a man who failed the 11 plus but went on to become a chartered civil engineer; I also know another who passed, went to grammar school and is now working as a bus driver. A good local school serving the needs of all our children would have served both these more than adequately and a system which achieves this, without trauma, should be everybody's aim.

Of the 3,000 or so secondary schools in England and Wales only 165 are grammars (5.5 per cent) and should be consigned to the past where they belong.

I do not understand why Mr Cheverst feels it necessary to comment on his lack of ability at cricket. Like the bile, this came only from him.

Sid Hollands, Maidstone



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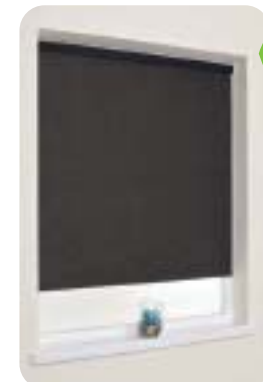
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Award Winning Company

Letters continued from page 42

Churchill's position became one of encouraging European unity, but on the clear understanding that Britain might have a different role as compared with say, Germany, France and Italy, because of the Commonwealth and the transatlantic relationship with the USA.

This is a position that accords pretty much with every postwar British Prime Minister, with the obvious exception of Ted Heath. This scarcely justifies the use of Churchill's memory to promote Ukip. It is obviously offensive to the great statesman's family, to the Conservative Party and to many older people who fought in World War Two in the hope that there would never be another European conflict.

Cllr Roger Truelove, Sittingbourne

Remember patients

G Collins asserts (Letters, last week) that I was misleading in my previous letter. In fact it is he who has been misled.

Had he looked in the medical literature he would have seen that research on monkeys was crucial to the identification of a region of the brain known as the sub-thalamic nucleus as being important in the symptoms of Parkinson's disease. This discovery transformed deep brain stimulation (DBS) from an obscure treatment with modest benefits to a therapy that helps Parkinson's sufferers throughout the world deal with their illness, as DBS pioneer Dr Alim-Louis Benabid has himself acknowledged.

Experiments on monkeys have taught us a lot about how HIV infection targets the immune system. For example, the key role of the immune cells in mucosal tissue, and was crucial to the development of HIV prophylaxis that has prevented hundreds of thousands of adults and children from becoming infected following exposure to HIV.

While it is true no vaccine for HIV has yet been developed, an overwhelming majority of Aids experts agree that research on monkeys infected with SIV is crucial if we are ever to develop one. They have realised that only vaccine candidates that provide high levels of protection against a range of SIV strains that most closely mimic HIV infection in humans should proceed to human trials, something earlier vaccine candidates failed to do prior to human trials. Contrary to what G Collins claims, a recent poll of GPs found 96 per cent agreed animal research has made important contributions to many medical advances, and 88 per cent agreed new medicines should be tested on animals before undergoing human trials. The truth is that the overwhelming majority of the scientific and medical community recognise the continuing importance of animal research to medical progress; that is why MEPs should remember the patients when they vote next week.

Paul Broune, Pro-Test, Oxford

Plastic's not fantastic

I refer to last week's story about polytunnels. Kent Green Party is objecting to this proposal on several grounds. In drafting the objection, I have been able to rely on work done previously by Herefordshire council, which has considerable experience in creating controls over polytunnels.

The planning application states no storage area for waste and no arrangements for separate storage and collection of recyclable waste will be made. This is contrary to best practice.

Also, most of the plastic used in polytunnels is not biodegradable. It is possible to use low-reflective polythene in order to reduce visual impact and glare, but the application makes no such provision.

While hedge and shelter belts are mentioned, there are no proposed additions to screening to minimise impact. There is no provision in the application for large-scale collection and use of rainwater, which should be a requirement for any development of this type. I note the Environment Agency will almost certainly want to know

more from the developers about water use and management in this proposal.

The applicants claim there are no protected and priority species, designated sites, important habitats or other biodiversity features on the site, yet there is no evidence of any surveys of the site being made. The size of this application is considerable. The area of polytunnels proposed at any one time is 430 acres – approximately a third of the site. The total area of polytunnels in the whole of Herefordshire for 2005 was 420 acres. This proposal, therefore, seems oversized and intrusive. I do hope the council will take full consideration of all issues raised and if permission is granted impose such conditions as will ameliorate the adverse affects this proposal seems bound to have on residents.

Hazel Dawe, Kent Green Party

New Labour's betrayal

So the Government has betrayed the Gurkhas once again, but what amazes me is people seem genuinely surprised.

They should remember this is the Blair/Brown version of the Labour Party and that the betrayal of the British people started as soon as they won the 1997 general election. If constant betrayal of the British people doesn't worry New Labour, I'm sure the fate of a few thousand Gurkhas, no matter how deserving they are, is going to cause them any sleepless nights.

PJ E Pepper, Ramsgate

Desecration of theatre

I can't believe Medway Council gave consent for partial demolition of the Theatre Royal in Chatham. Partial demolition will, of course, mean total demolition.

The building is of great historical value to Medway and it could have and should have, been saved. The demolition was very sudden and why, at the weekend, was it so that not many people would notice until it was too late?

Will we wake up one Monday morning and find Rochester Castle has been demolished? Well, the area would make a prime site for luxury apartments. More should have been done to protect and restore the theatre? The friends of the Theatre Royal tried for years to save it, but Medway Council wouldn't help. As for saying it was unsafe and had to come down – nonsense. The theatre was safe a few years ago when the friends were showing people around, so how had it become so unsafe now?

I suppose they will say it would cost too much to restore but they have millions to spend on Chatham town centre, millions for the Black Lion leisure centre, millions for the Great Lines, millions for the Riverside development, but nothing for the Victorian Theatre Royal.

It is a disgrace and amounts to no more than criminal damage. What's going to be built there? More apartments? The council should hang its head in shame, not doing more to save what could have been Chatham's biggest assets. Regeneration of Chatham? More like desecration.

Peter Nassan, Chatham

It's quite simple, Frank

Frank Mitch asks: "What is the difference between a 65th or a 17th anniversary?" The answer is simple. It is a certain date that is important to you, be it a birth, a wedding or in this case, the day the battle to free the world started – namely D-Day, June 6, 1944.

I was at El Alamein, when I broke out on October 24, 1942. A day I celebrate every year in Germany with former members of Rommel's Afrika Corps we captured.

He goes on to say that "commemorating spurious anniversaries beats him". The people I meet, be they Belgian, Dutch or French, would not agree that celebrating D-Day is spurious.

I fly my cross of St George on D-Day, St George's Day and October 24, even though I am in Germany, and I am proud to do so.

David J Morby, Erith



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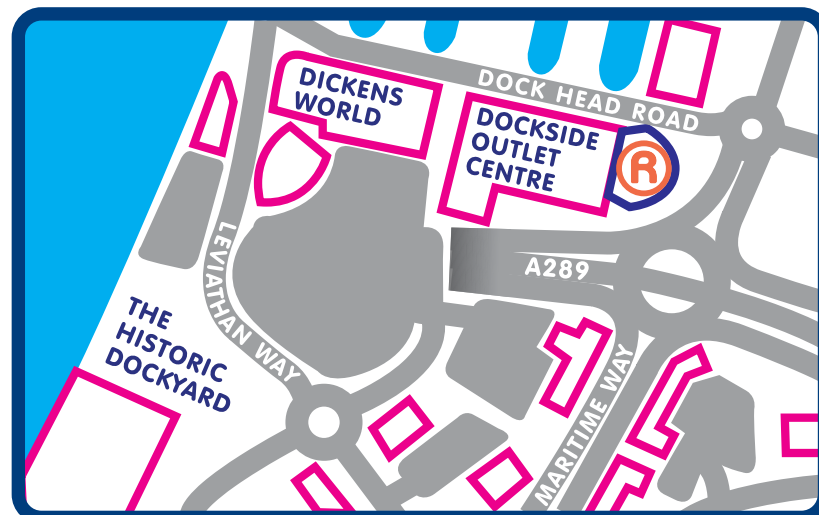
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Ready for take-off

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

AN AIR cadet from Kent was “over the moon” after winning 12 hours of flying time as part of a national competition.

Berkeley Winsor, who lives in Matfield near Tonbridge, was among five winners across the country who beat off stiff competition from 34 other entries in the Royal Air Forces' Association (RAFA) scholarships.

The Cadet Warrant Officer, 19, who is a member of the 129 (Tunbridge Wells) Squadron of the Air Training Corps, will be able to use his prize to help achieve his National Private Pilot's Licence (NPPL).

He said: “I was absolutely over the moon to hear I had won the scholarship. I felt really privileged to be given the award and it will be a big help towards gaining my NPPL. I really want to thank RAFA for giving me this opportunity.”

Each year the RAFA offers air cadet squadrons the chance to nominate outstanding cadets for flying scholarships to help them achieve the necessary flying hours to gain their NPPL.

The awards are offered as a thank you to the cadets for helping to collect during the annual Wings Appeal, organised by the association, which raises £2 million a year so welfare services can be offered to veterans and

serving members of the RAF. Cadet Winsor, a former Mascalls School pupil, said his dream was to become a pilot in the RAF.

In his letter of recommendation to the RAFA, Flight Lieutenant Tim Blackwell, the commanding officer of the Tunbridge Wells squadron, said: “Winsor is an outstanding and highly motivated young man, who has had an exceptional cadet career to date.”

The 12 nominated finalists for the scholarships were invited to RAF Cranwell, which is home to the RAF College and other training units, to attend the Officers and Aircrew Selection Centre.

The air cadet hopefuls then had to complete a challenging aptitude test and a panel interview.

Former RAF Group Captain Bob Hounslow, who is the director of membership and areas for RAFA, was one of the judges.

He said: “I was amazed at the exceptional standards of all the applicants we interviewed and it was incredibly difficult to choose between them.”

“The air cadet organisation comprises a very able and talented group of young people, who reflect the ethos of the RAF extremely well. These young people should be very proud of their achievements.”

Cadet Winsor will be presented with his award by the Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sir Glenn Torphy, at the RAFA national conference in Bournemouth this month. For more information about the RAFA visit www.rafa.org.uk.

THOUSANDS of students at a Kent college have said they are happy with its teaching and learning methods, according to a survey. North West Kent College said 96 per cent of its students on the 166 full-time courses it offers said lecturers know their subject well, are excellent at planning lessons and their marking and comments help students to learn and improve.

Of the 2,700 students at the college's Dartford and

Gravesend campuses who filled in the survey, 93 per cent said they have access to the internet at home. The college is best known for educating school leavers in vocational subjects but is also popular with mature students wanting to gain extra skills. Almost nine out of 10 students rated the buildings and facilities as ‘high’, but there was concern about finding the Gravesend campus at Denton and the students called for better signposting.

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Henry's costume drama turns handsome profit

A YOUNG entrepreneur from Kent has turned a tenner into more than £700 by dressing up in a 1920s bathing suit.

Henry Pearce, 16, from Southborough, near Tunbridge Wells, came up with the idea as part of a national competition called Make Your Mark with a Tenner and was awarded a top prize.

The competition challenged thousands of young people to make as much profit and impact as they could from £10, in February.

Henry rented a 1920s bathing suit and was sponsored to wear it by family and friends for a historical costumes fashion show organised by his local church.

He said: “When I was asked if I wanted to be involved in the fashion show I was reluctant. I took a bit of persuading, particularly

because I would have to wear a 1920s bathing suit.

“A lot of people in the church and from local businesses sponsored me to take part and I was amazed by how much people gave. I couldn't believe it when I heard I was a winner – I've never won anything in my life.”

He won the Best Individual Profit category for making £736.77. Harry Rich, chief executive of the Make Your Mark campaign which co-founded and runs the competition, said: “This stunning profit on an investment of just £10 is testament to the entrepreneurial skill and tenacity of our young people.”

Henry collected his prize from businessman Peter Jones, who is a panellist on the BBC's Dragons' Den TV show.



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If it's time for you to enjoy the rewards you deserve please write enclosing your CV, quoting reference SVS294/KOS, to Alice Forsyth, HR Officer, Saga Group Limited, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or e-mail: human.resources@saga.co.uk
Alternatively, please call 01303 774888 for an application form or download one from our website.

Closing date: 15 May 2009.

saga.co.uk



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We're moving in so you can move up.

SALES & CUSTOMER SERVICE AGENTS OPEN DAYS

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Saturday 9 May • 10.00am – 12.00pm

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If that sounds like your kind of company, then come along to one of our **open days**. Find out how you could help us build the future of our new contact centre at the former Eurotunnel offices just off the M20 in Cheriton, 20 minutes from Ashford.

For both roles, there will be full training, not to mention ongoing support every step of the way. So while contact centre experience would be ideal, it's certainly not essential if you've excellent communication skills and a helpful personality. As part of the Acromas family – that also includes Saga and The AA – we can also offer outstanding opportunities for career progression and a first-rate benefits package.

If you can't make either of the open days, we'd still like to hear from you.

You can apply for either of the positions by calling 01303 774888 for an application form. Alternatively, email your CV to recruitment@directchoice.co.uk or post to Kerry Harrison, HR Officer, Direct Choice, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE. Please quote reference: DC295/KOS.

www.directchoice.com



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WALMER SCIENCE COLLEGE
Salisbury Road, Walmer, Deal, Kent, CT14 7QJ
Telephone : 01304 375212 Fax : 01304 380766
e-mail : admin@walmersciencecollege.co.uk
Headteacher : S.Heaton BSc (Hons) NPOH.
MIXED 11-18 HIGH SCHOOL 800 ON ROLL REQUIRED
FOR 1st SEPTEMBER 2009




TEACHER OF ART (0.4 FTE)

The post would be suitable for either NQTs or more experienced teachers. A comprehensive induction programme will be offered whatever your status. The successful applicant will:-

- be a creative teacher with the ability to motivate students of all abilities;
- be enthusiastic and energetic;
- have a commitment to raising standards;
- have a commitment to providing a first class learning experience for all our students.

Walmer Science College is a good school with outstanding features (Ofsted 2007).

Walmer Science College is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and the successful applicant will be required to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure via the CRB. For an application form and further details, please contact Mrs Windsor at the school.
Closing date: 8th May 2009

 We value diversity in our workforce  

Rainham School for Girls

(A Specialist Technology College & Training School)
Derwent Way, Rainham, GILLINGHAM Kent ME8 0BX
(NOR 1570) Head Teacher: Mrs J Dunn

2 i/c Science Faculty - TLR 2a (currently £5,920)


We are seeking to appoint a well qualified and experienced teacher with good interpersonal, leadership and management skills to join the school in September 2009 as Second in Charge of the Science Faculty. The successful candidate will have high expectations of student achievement and proven excellence in classroom practice. Experience of teaching at KS5 is desirable to support expansion in this key stage.

Rainham School for Girls is a popular and successful non-selective school offering excellent opportunities for enthusiastic and ambitious applicants to contribute to its continuing development.

Any offer of employment for this post will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure.

This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Application forms and further details are available from Mrs D Francis, Personnel Officer at the School.
Tel. 01634 362746, Fax: 01634 388334. Email: df Francis@rsg.org.uk
Closing date: Monday, 11th May 2009



Saint George's Church of England School

Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS
Tel: 01474 533082
Fax: 01474 533844
HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BDAKC
Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College
11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School

PRINCIPAL TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS

Required for September 2009
TLR1 (£8,975)


Following the promotion of the current post holder we wish to appoint an excellent classroom practitioner to inspire and lead our mathematics team. You will have the enthusiasm and energy to drive the development of effective teaching and learning for the 21st century.

TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS

Required for September 2009
Main Pay Scale

We are looking for a well-qualified and innovative mathematician. Saint George's C of E School is a successful, innovative and over-subscribed comprehensive school. These posts come at an exciting time for the school as we are preparing for new buildings under Wave 4 of BSF.

Contact us to request further details and an application form.
Email dnariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk
Closing Date: 8 May 2009



HARBOUR SPECIAL SCHOOL

Elms Vale Road, Dover CT17 9PS
Tel: 01304 201964
E-Mail: admin@harbour.kent.sch.uk

Teaching Assistants

Kent Scheme, Band 3, Points 7-11 + SEN Allowance
£14,099 - £15,964 (pro-rata) 30 hours per week, term time only
Start: ASAP


Harbour Special School has a mixed roll of 96 students between the ages of 5 and 16. The school is a day special school for children with a combination of behaviour and learning needs. The completion of a 2-year building project in 2007 has seen the school accommodation extended and modernised with excellent new facilities now available.

The Governors are seeking to appoint two Teaching Assistants to join our dedicated and highly effective staff team who are bright, full of ideas and enjoy using their own initiative.

The successful candidates will work within the secondary phase supporting pupils with a range of behaviour and learning needs. Experience of working in a school environment with special needs pupils in particular, would be an advantage but is not essential as full training will be provided.

Ofsted (2006) describes the school as "outstanding in all areas", the school has an excellent reputation locally and it provides a challenging, productive and happy learning environment. The school has also gained the "Investors in People" standard and therefore places a high priority on professional and career development.

For more information and an application pack, please contact the school office.
Closing Date: Monday 11 May 2009
Interview Date: Thursday 14 May 2009
The school requires a completed application form - no CV's accepted





Gravesend Grammar School for Girls

A Specialist Science College
Pelham Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0JE
Telephone: 01474 352896 Fax: 01474 331195
Website: www.gsgs.org.uk
email: enquiries@gsgs.org.uk

TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS

Maternity Cover – September 2009

We are looking for a well-qualified and enthusiastic Teacher of Mathematics to join a highly successful Faculty. The person appointed would be required to teach up to A' Level. Maths is a very popular option with students and a high proportion go on to study a Mathematical course in Higher Education.

The person appointed will receive high quality mentoring and support. The Faculty enjoys excellent facilities and equipment.


We have been a Specialist Science College since September 2004; this has led to a broad range of innovative practice across the school and we are looking to develop cross-curricular projects involving Mathematics.

The School has a high profile for achievement locally and nationally and prides itself on a strong record of internal professional development including a full induction in the Summer term.

The School is also an Investor in People and an Investor in Careers.

Application forms and further details are available from the Headteacher's Personal Assistant, Mrs M Tong Ralphs. Completed forms should be returned by post, fax or email for the attention of
Mrs E Wilson, Headteacher no later than
Thursday 21st May 2009

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



Resident Involvement Manager

Based in Sevenoaks and Swanley. Job Ref: KOS/WKE020

Spot Salary £28,520 pa 37 hours a week

West Kent Extra (WKE) is a thriving community development charity based in Sevenoaks and working with communities in west Kent and beyond. We are a subsidiary of West Kent Housing Association, one of the UK's leading housing providers.

The national agenda on resident involvement is changing, with the formation of the Tenant Services Authority (TSA) and a move towards resident-led self-regulation.

We are looking for someone who understands these changes and will work with our staff and tenants to ensure we make positive changes to the way we work.

We have a proud tradition of resident involvement work and this is a great opportunity for you to join an established and successful housing association, as part of our Operational Management Team.

You should have a passion for working with tenants and customers and the drive and commitment to ensure they are able to influence and engage with us, in a positive and productive way.

You will be an excellent communicator able to connect with a range of tenants, staff and partner agencies to promote the value of resident involvement.

You should be able to work well on your own initiative, contribute to an existing team and be prepared to go the extra mile to ensure customer satisfaction.






You will need to have a driving licence and access to a vehicle for business use. The post includes an Essential Car Users Allowance and is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

For more information and to download an application pack, please visit our website or call Colleen Coode on 01732 749420.

Closing date: 18 May 2009
Interview date: 28 May 2009

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Saint George's Church of England School

Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS

Tel: 01474 533082

Fax: 01474 533844

HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BDAKC
Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College
11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School

TEACHER OF SCIENCE

Required for September 2009 – Main Pay Scale

We require a well-qualified, enthusiastic and innovative teacher of science who is committed to raising the achievement of our students.

Saint George's C of E School is a successful, innovative and over-subscribed comprehensive school. This post comes at an exciting time for the school as we are preparing for new buildings under Wave 4 of BSF.

Contact us to request further details and an application form.
Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website
www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

Closing Date : 8 May 2009

SUTTON VALENCE SCHOOL
North Street, Sutton Valence,
Maidstone, Kent ME17 3HL
www.svs.org.uk



HMC: CO-EDUCATIONAL: 11-18 BOARDING AND DAY: 533 PUPILS TEACHER OF ENGLISH (Maternity Cover)

Required for September 2009 for two terms: a well-qualified and enthusiastic graduate to teach to GCSE and A Level. The successful candidate would also be expected to contribute to the extra-curricular life of the school.

Salary will be on the school's own scale.

Further details, including an information pack, are available from Sarah O'Connell, the Headmaster's PA: telephone 01622 845203 or e-mail: hmsec@svs.org.uk

Closing date for applications: 11th May 2009 Interviews: 19th May 2009

Sutton Valence School is an equal opportunities employer and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



Sutton Valence School
A member of the United Westminster Schools' Foundation
Founded in 1576 by William Lambe



SANDWICH TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL SANDWICH, KENT

Technology, Vocational and Training School
Status

Headteacher: Richard Wallis
Current Roll: 1300

"Sandwich Technology School is an outstanding school" –
Ofsted December 2008

TEACHER OF ENGLISH

To cover a maternity period

Required from September 2009, a suitably qualified, experienced and enthusiastic person to make a significant contribution in our successful English Department.

Applications are welcome from NQTs.

Teacher of Science and Teacher of ICT KS4 & 5 also
required for September 2009.

**An information pack and application form are
available from the school:**
Sandwich Technology School, Deal Road, Sandwich,
Kent CT13 0FA

Tel: 01304 610013 Fax: 01304 610100

www.sandwich-tech.kent.sch.uk

e-mail: stella.leitner@sandwich-tech.kent.sch.uk

Closing Date: Friday, 8 May 2009

The school is committed to safeguarding children and the post
is subject to an enhanced disclosure check.

Bredlands Lane, Sturry, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT2 0HD
T: 01227 710392 | W: www.spireacademy.com

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Teaching Vacancies for July/September 2009:

SCIENCE, ICT, FRENCH AND GIRL'S PE

If you are ambitious to 'get on' in the profession then there is no better place to start than at Spire Academy, where you will have the opportunity to work with experienced and committed teams of practitioners.

Spire Academy opened in September 2007 and achieved excellent results at KS4 in its first year with GCSE results in English and Maths rising from 18% to 32%.

In appointing teaching colleagues, we look for candidates who enjoy working with young people and forge positive relationships with them. An enthusiasm for new approaches and ideas is also important.

**Further details of all posts and application forms are available on our
website www.spireacademy.com or alternatively, contact Marion Wigington
at m.wigington@spireacademy.com**

Closing date: 15th May 2009.

Spire Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

CHILDCARE INSTRUCTOR/LECTURER REQUIRED

Hours: 8.30am – 3.30pm, Term-time only

Salary: Dependent on experience

Instructor for a new childcare course is required for June 2009. This is an exciting opportunity to lead and develop this new initiative which will have its first student intake in September 2009.

The successful candidate will be an individual who has experience of teaching within this sector and who has a vision as to how Pent Valley Technology College can provide real life applied learning experiences for its students in the childcare industry.

Good interpersonal skills are extremely important. This position is suitable for an energetic person who enjoys being with teenagers and can cope with a busy learning environment.

For more information and an application form please contact:
Miss S Spratley, Pent Valley Technology College, Surrenden Road,
Folkestone, Kent. CT19 4ED.

Email: samantha.spratley@pent-valley.kent.sch.uk
Tel: 01303 277161 ext 2218 Fax: 01303 279342

Closing Date: 12th May 2009

Interviews: Week commencing 18th May 2009



Achievement for all

Career Opportunities

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Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M Campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

Section Manager Construction Craft	08/12
37 hrs per week, salary starting at £33,858 per annum	
Lecturer Animal Care and Horse Studies	02/59
37 hrs per week, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum	
Supply Lecturer Counselling	S/COU
Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum	
Supply Lecturer Higher Education - Fine Art	S/HE/FA
Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum	
Trainer Demonstrator Fabrication and Welding	TD3
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,963 per annum	

**For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or
call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone)
quoting the above reference.**

Staff benefits include:

- Pension & Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall & Gym
- Proximity to main bus & train stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- Staff Discount Scheme

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 11th May 2009 at 12 noon



CLICK

www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/job-vacancies



CALL

01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone)



34 Dumpton Park Drive
Broadstairs, Kent
CT10 1BY

**All appointments
are subject to an
Enhanced Disclosure
CRB check**

**All shortlisted
applicants will be
expected to visit
the school before
interview.**

**Bradstow School
is an equal
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**In addition to salary,
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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Creative, committed, enthusiastic and resilient

TEACHERS

do amazing things at BRADSTOW SCHOOL

If you would like to join them from **September 2009 to August 2010**, we are confident that:-

- It will probably be the hardest teaching job you will ever have.
- It will certainly be the most satisfying.

Bradstow is an exciting and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs.

We seek to meet the needs of children with autism and severe learning difficulties, many of whom have associated challenging behaviours. We have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management.

Professional and personal qualities in this specialised and challenging field are very important. Experience, whilst helpful is not essential. Extensive and on-going training and support of all staff is at the core of the success of the school. All teachers are fully trained and supported in TEACCH, Prospect, PECS and other Augmentative Communication Systems as well as being provided with other specialist skills. You will also be supported and encouraged to further develop your skills and knowledge by undertaking further Degree and Diploma studies.

OFSTED 2009 said,

"Bradstow is an outstanding school"

"The curriculum and the quality of teaching and support are exceptional"

"It is to the tremendous credit of a highly skilled and well-qualified team of teachers and support staff that they enable pupils to overcome and cope with the substantial learning and emotional barriers that they face"

"Bradstow is a very complex organization and a centre of excellence in its own field"

If you would like to join our team, and help us to continue to transform the lives of these children and their families, give us a call. Be in no doubt, this is a challenging working environment for which you will need to be committed to the needs of the child and the school. In return we offer a highly rewarding and satisfying career, with quite a bit of fun thrown in as well!

For SEN specialists, the second SEN point will be available.

For an application form and information pack please call
01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine), or email
personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk.

Please note that CV's will not be considered.

Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, 8th May 2009.



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TEACHERS

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A Kent based company you can rely on

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EXPERIENCED TEACHERS & NQT's URGENTLY REQUIRED

Are you an experienced Teacher, NQT or TA looking for local work to suit you?

Do you want FREE INSET & CPD advice?

We offer everything from 1/2 day supply to full time permanent.

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e-mail: **office@termtimeteachers.co.uk**

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Saint George's
Church of England School
Humanities College

Meadow Road, Gravesend
Kent DA11 7LS

Tel: 01474 533082 Fax: 01474 561536
HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BDAKC

Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College
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LEARNING MENTOR

Years 12 & 13

**KS6 Pts 17-20 £18,471- £20,262 (pro-rata)
£15,586 - £17,098 (actual) 37 hours per week / Term
Time Only + 5 days (39 weeks)**

We are seeking a Learning Mentor to support students in reaching their full potential. Applicants will need to have a good relationship with students and an understanding of the issues that hinder learning. Strong communication skills to work with individuals, groups, teachers, families and carers will be needed.

Saint George's C of E School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks.

Contact us to request further details and an application form.

Email **dhariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk** or visit our website **www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk**

Closing Date : 19 May 2009

Teachers Needed

Primary, Secondary and SEN.

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Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.

To find out more information and to register with us, please call us free on: **0800 731 6871** or e-mail **jean.read@capita.co.uk**

CAPITA
EDUCATION RESOURCING (Agy)

Committed to equal opportunities

Laleham Gap School
Laleham Gap caters for pupils from 3-16 and is the county's leading provision for pupils with speech, language and communication difficulties.

THE FOLLOWING STAFF ARE REQUIRED FOR SEPTEMBER 2009

Both Posts will be paid Kent Scheme 3 (£14099 – 15984 pro-rata)

TEMP 1:1 LSA

27.5 hours per week, term time only, between 8.50 am – 3.30 pm Monday – Friday. The role will be working flexibly across all subjects at our secondary school in Margate. An interest/ flair for ICT would be an advantage.

RESIDENTIAL CARE WORKER (MATERNITY COVER)

To provide cover for up to one year for 35 hours plus 2 "sleep-in" duties per week during term time. Hours are primarily between 3 - 10 p.m. Duties include planning and supervising activities for groups of residential pupils, preparing some meals and on-call duties when doing sleep-ins. NVO 3 in Care would be favourable.

We are also keen to speak with people who may be interested in any type of casual/relief work in the school.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the young people in its care and all posts are subject to an enhanced CRB disclosure.

Closing Date is Monday 1 June

Please send a LARGE SAE for an application pack to the address below clearly indicating which post you are interested in.

Debbie Terziyski, Laleham Gap School, Northdown Park Road, Margate CT9 2TP
E-mail: **Debbie.terziyski@laleham-gap.kent.sch.uk**

THE KING'S SCHOOL CANTERBURY

Part-time Gardener

Required to work 20 hours per week at our Junior School in Sturry, Canterbury

There is a possibility that this post could become full-time in the future.

The King's School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

For an application form, please email the School's Personnel Department on recruitment@kings-bursary.co.uk or telephone on 01227 595655 (24 hour answerphone)

Closing date for receipt of completed application forms: 7th May 2009

Marlowe Academy
Stirling Way, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6NB
Tel: 01843 593236
www.marloweacademy.co.uk

Applications invited for a
Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist

to work across three academies starting September 2009 [with the opportunity of an earlier start date]

£35,000 - £44,000 pa
37.5 hours per week

Candidates who would like to apply should have sufficient experience in:

- working in a secondary educational placement
- have knowledge of KS3/4 Curriculum
- experience managing ASD and SLU caseload within mainstream setting
- experience of multi-agency work
- ability to provide in house training for TA's and Teaching staff

Applicants must have valid RCLST and HPC registration

Please send a copy of your C.V. to the school or email **jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk**
Enquiries or visits to the Academy are welcome.

Please contact Jennifer Spooner on direct telephone no: 01843 598550 or email to address above.

Closing date for applications: 15th May 2009

The Academy of English Studies, Folkestone requires the following staff:

CELTA QUALIFIED TEACHERS

from June until December 2009.

A dynamic, flexible and creative

SOCIAL ORGANISER

- Immediate start.

For further information please contact info@aesfolkestone.co.uk or call 01303 21 0808

We also require **HOST FAMILIES**. For details contact Eliana on 01303210808

Foster carers wanted

The Caldecott Foundation, which cares for vulnerable children who have experienced extreme trauma and disruption, seeks dedicated and highly motivated foster carers. Comprehensive training and support given, plus excellent rates of pay.

Contact Jamie Bromfield or Erica Eversfield on 01303 815648 or email fostering@caldecottfoundation.co.uk

The Caldecott Foundation, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SP.

Saint George's
Church of England School
Humanities College

Meadow Road, Gravesend
Kent DA11 7LS

Tel: 01474 533082 Fax: 01474 561536
HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Southgate BDAKC

Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College
11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School

TEACHER OF HUMANITIES

Required for September 2009
Main Pay Scale

We require a well-qualified, enthusiastic and innovative teacher of humanities who is committed to raising the achievement of our students.

Saint George's C of E School is a successful, innovative and over - subscribed Humanities College. This post comes at an exciting time for the school as we are preparing for new buildings under Wave 4 of BSF.

Saint George's C of E School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks.

Contact us to request further details and an application form.

Email **dhariwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk** or visit our website **www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk**

Closing Date : 15 May 2009

The Folkestone academy

Required for September 2009

TEACHER OF ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

MPS

A specialist teacher of Additional Educational Needs is required to join our successful team, working with students with specific learning difficulties and ASD across the Key Stages both individually and in small groups. This is an exciting time to join the department as we move towards becoming an All Age Academy.

A commitment to the ethos of inclusion is essential. You will have the ability to establish strong working relationships with young people and colleagues and will bring enthusiasm and new ideas to the classroom to make learning fun and engaging.

Full details and an application form are available on our website **www.folkestoneacademy.com**
Alternatively, telephone Sally Taylor on 01303 842400

Closing date: Monday 18 May at 5pm
Interviews: Friday 22 May

The Folkestone Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

The Folkestone Academy, Academy Lane, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5FP • Tel: 01303 842400
Email: **admin@folkestoneacademy.com**

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- It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of government legislation and KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in errors and omissions to the content of our media.
- All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
- All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
- Any unsuitable material posted on any website belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All passwords and security supplied to the advertiser by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in relation to the use of the posting of material via the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to change passwords intermittently to ensure the overall and ongoing security of its websites within the public domain.
- Copyright and licenses for voice-over/music/photography or film for advertising promotions or otherwise within the various forms of media in print, online and moving film owned by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must have been sought, verified or paid for by the advertiser when applicable. Approval or permissions must have been given by any potential beneficial owner voice-over or music. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd.
- Where shrinkage of an advertisement occurs for whatever reason, the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre where it relates to the media owner's printed publications. This will NOT apply to full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisement/commercial/web content without notice or explanation. In these terms the word "advertiser" shall be construed to include any person or organisation placing an advertisement on behalf of another.
- A guarantee of insertion cannot be given and the media owners shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused by any error inaccuracy within your marketing content. In no case shall the total liability of the media owner for any error or omission exceed the price charged by the media owners for that advertising.
- No liability is accepted for any loss or damage alleged to have arisen through delay in forwarding replies to Box numbers, however caused, nor for the loss or damage to any artwork supplied.
- Claims for any error or inaccuracy in your media messages with KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be made in writing to the accounts department within 10 days of publishing.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions made on their websites by the advertiser.
- KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd has the right to cancel the advertiser's annual membership without notice should the advertiser deliberately publish out of date material or content on any of the media owner's online digital platforms. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd will seek to recover, in full, all outstanding invoices in relation to the signed annual membership as a result of the advertiser's negligence in this regard and reserves the right to claim damages for any potential vesicular action via the advertiser.
- Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for any errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.
- A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from KOS Media's standard effective media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with KOS Media's standard media rate card (effective July 2008-June 2009) and will reflect the revised length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (effective July 2008-June 2009). Discounts will be reapplied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' written notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
- Seasonal contracts: Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be invoiced in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.
- All uplift advertisements must be booked at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
- The advertiser must agree to the date and time of filming of any online TV advertising commercial supplied by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd within the advertiser's agreement. (Platinum, Gold, Silver standard of commercial). Should, for any reason, the advertiser not be available at the agreed time without giving sufficient notice (at least 48 hours), KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to charge for any further TV production at its standard published hourly rate should the advertiser still wish to use KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's production services to complete its TV commercial or photographic imagery included in the advertiser's agreement. The advertiser will approve and accept that there are only two choices of voice-over and music: approved by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Should an advertiser wish to use other voice-overs or non-copyright free music it is the responsibility of the advertiser to pay the PRS rights should they be required to do so. Any changes to or failure to approve the TV production by the deadlines agreed between both parties will result in KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd being given permission by the advertiser to replace the TV commercial with pictures or stills from a choice of photography supplied by the media owner until the advertiser can supply a TV commercial produced at their own cost and risk outside of this agreement. The advertiser also accepts and agrees that this action would not reduce the value or cost of their membership and any cost changes required to the TV commercial throughout the advertiser's agreement will be borne by the advertiser outside of this agreement.
- Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc) other than they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
- Any delivery claims made by the advertiser or discount vouchers published within the print or online media of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd and any action as a result of the public or otherwise is the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Any claims resulting from this via KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be met by the advertiser.
- All credit accounts due for payment shall be notified to the Advertiser by the 30th day following the date of the invoice, time to be of the essence. All sums due to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring shall be paid in full, and the Advertiser shall have no right of set off in any circumstances.
- In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring by the due date, the media owner shall be entitled to suspend all further advertising until payment is received and/or repudiate the contract and make any surcharges for breaking the contract.
- In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.
- Notwithstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (for whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.
- The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.
- Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
- Any discount which KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
- Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the Newspaper Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
- All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
- The Advertiser agrees to indemnify KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owner or any of the companies within the KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
- An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
- Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

Effective from June 2008

Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR
Tel 01303 817040 Fax 01303 817004
Email: **info@kosmedia.co.uk**

KOS media

Award winning publications
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The Folkestone academy



Required for September 2009

KS2 SPECIALIST TEACHER

Full or Part-time (MPS)

The Academy is embarking on an exciting new journey as we move towards becoming an all-age Academy for ages 4 – 19. For September we are seeking a KS2 teacher to join our successful Foundation Curriculum team. Recently praised by Ofsted, the foundation team work with small classes of 16 students in years 7, 8 & 9 for 50% of the students' timetable in a classroom base equipped using the KS2 model. Foundation teachers deliver English, maths and humanities subjects to one class with the primary aim of raising the ability of students who join us with standards below level 4.

This is an exciting opportunity for a KS2 trained teacher to join our dedicated team of professionals who are committed to caring for and guiding young people and helping them to work towards meeting national levels of expectation in their achievement.

Full details and an application form are available on our website www.folkestoneacademy.com Alternatively, telephone Sally Taylor on 01303 842400

Closing date: Thursday 14 May 2009 at 5pm
Interviews: Monday 18 May

The Folkestone Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

The Folkestone Academy, Academy Lane,
Folkestone, Kent CT19 5FP • Tel: 01303 842400
Email: admin@folkestoneacademy.com

The Folkestone academy



Required for September 2009

TEACHER OF ENGLISH (KS4 Coordinator)

TLR 2B (currently £3,940)

An enthusiastic and dynamic qualified teacher of English is required to join our thriving and successful team. The Folkestone Academy is about to embark on an exciting journey towards becoming Kent's first All Age Academy with students from age 4 – 19.


We are seeking an ambitious teacher with the energy and drive to support the leadership of the English team taking responsibility for Key Stage 4. This is an ideal opportunity for a well qualified teacher to gain experience for future faculty leadership.

Full details and an application form are available on our website www.folkestoneacademy.com Alternatively, telephone Sally Taylor on 01303 842400

Closing date: Monday 18 May at 5pm
Interviews: Friday 22 May

The Folkestone Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

The Folkestone Academy, Academy Lane,
Folkestone, Kent CT19 5FP • Tel: 01303 842400
Email: admin@folkestoneacademy.com



WEST HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL
DARTFORD ROAD, DARTFORD, KENT DA1 3DZ
TEL: 01322 226019 FAX: 01322 220121

E.mail: office@west-hill.kent.sch.uk
Age range: 5-11 N.O.R. 490
Headteacher: Mrs Pauline Hindle

Do you wish to join a lively talented and friendly staff?

Post 1
REQUIRED FOR SEPTEMBER 2009 A KS1 OR LOWER KS2 TEACHER

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic teacher to work in KS1 or Year 3 or Year 4. This position would be suitable for experienced teachers and NQT's. Applicants are asked to identify curriculum areas in which they can offer expertise. The school has a commitment to the professional development of staff.


Post 2
TEMPORARY POSITION REQUIRED FROM SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2009 A 0.4 FTE UPPER KS2 TEACHER (WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF THIS BEING EXTENDED)

A teacher to release the deputy head for 2 days each week. The successful applicant must be committed to high expectations, have a thorough knowledge of the National Curriculum and the Year 6 curriculum. Applicants must be committed to fully contribute to the life of the school.

West Hill is a successful and popular school with well behaved and motivated children. At the heart of the school's philosophy is the development of the whole child.

If you would like to learn more about the school please send for an information pack. Visits to the school are warmly welcomed.

Completed application forms should be forwarded to the headteacher by 8th May 2009.



Abbey Court School
"WE GROW PEOPLE"

Abbey Court School provides a stimulating, challenging and safe learning environment where pupils and staff efforts, work and achievement are celebrated.

We are currently looking for a

TEACHER FOR PUPILS WITH SEVERE AND PROFOUND LEARNING DIFFICULTIES TO COMMENCE SEPT 2009

MPS + 2 SEN Points + TLR 2C (with previous experience) £2422

The school is located in pleasant surroundings and we have educational resources of enviable proportions. This post would suit newly qualified teachers or those wishing to gain further experience of SEN. Comprehensive induction and training will be provided.

Telephone enquiries and informal visits to the school welcomed

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Closing Date: 8th May 2009

For further details and a job description, please contact Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent, ME2 3SP. (Tel: 01634 338224), stating the position for which you are applying.

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match your
selected criteria

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a job in the County

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A selection of the 100s
of Local Jobs online

Accountancy

Become Book Keeper

Whitstable
Salary: TBA
Sage Accounting & Sage Payroll
Various course dates & Times
Contact 01227 774808 and
quote reference.
To apply/more information:
Sellwell Events
Quoting Job Ref: KOS BAB
Tel: 01227 774808
Email sell.well@mail.com

Sage bookkeeping and Payroll courses

Kent
Salary: TBA
Work from home Sage
Bookkeeping and Payroll
courses. Contact 01227 794808
REF: KOS WFLI.
To apply/more information:
Sellwell Events
Quoting Job Ref: KOS WFLI
Tel: 01227 794808
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

COSTING ASSISTANT

Gillingham
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 8 May 09
To apply/more information:
Fuji Seal Europe Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email jobs@uk.fujiseal.com

Administrative Apprenticeship

Medway
Salary: £6,171
Closing Date: Friday 15 May 2009
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0594
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Agriculture, Forestry, Environment

Gardener

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Kings School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 595655
Email recruitment@kings-bursary.co.uk

Catering, Hospitality

Coffee Shop Assistants
Canterbury

Salary: TBA
C & H Fabrics Ltd Part-time
Coffee Shop Assistants with
Excellent cooking, hygiene and
customer service skills 5 days
per week. Call Coffee Shop
Manager, Tel: 01227 459760.
To apply/more information:
C & H Fabrics
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 459760
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Waitresses

Faversham
Salary: TBA
Waitress required for family run
village restaurant. Silver service
preferred but not essential as
training can be given. Own
transport necessary. Two or
three evenings per week. Age
25 plus. Phone Martins
Restaurant 01227 750304.
To apply/more information:
Martins Restaurant
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 750304
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Sous Chef

Ashford
Salary: TBA
To become part of the team at this
celebrated golf course. Excellent
rates of pay for the right applicant.

Apply in the first instance by
sending your CV and covering
letter to head chef Jason Weam.
Email: kitchen@charthills.co.uk
Phone: 01580 292222 or post to:
Chart Hills Golf Club, Weeks Lane,
Biddenden, Kent TN27 8JX
References will be required.
To apply/more information:
Chart Hills Golf Club
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01580 292222
Email kitchen@charthills.co.uk

Chef to Partie

Ashford
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Chart Hills Golf Club
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01580 292222
Email kitchen@charthills.co.uk

Cook

Maidstone
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Age Concern Maidstone
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 753618
Email info@ageconcernmaidstone.org.uk

EXPERIENCED WAITSTAFF AND CHEFS
Thanet

Salary: TBA
For the best restaurant in
Thanet. Hard working,
dedicated, experienced
applicants only need apply.
Please contact: Harriet on
01843 851515 Or email:
harrietteigh@gmail.com.
To apply/more information:
Age & Sons
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 851515
Email harrietteigh@gmail.com

CATERING ASSISTANT

Faversham
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
White Lion
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227-752211
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Child Care

Foster Carers

Ashford
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Caldecott Foundation
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 815648
Email fostering@caldecottfoundation.co.uk

Community Worker

Canterbury
Salary: £18,226 pro rata
To apply/more information:
Home-Start Canterbury &
Coastal
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 472050
Email Office@homestartcanterbury.org

Customer Service, Call Centre

CUSTOMER SERVICES REPRESENTATIVES

Sittingbourne
Salary: £12,000 pa
Closing Date: 4 May 2009
To apply/more information:
Dovetail Services
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email julie.raife@dovetailservices.com

Sales and Customer Service Agents

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Saga
Quoting Job Ref: DC295/KOS
Tel: 01303 774888
Email recruitment@directchoice.co.uk

Domestic Trades

MULTI-TRADE SKILLED OPERATIVES

Dartford
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Regent Development Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: KOS.3
Tel: 01322 626249
Email nikki.pipe@regentgroup.co.uk

Education, Teacher, School

Subject Lead Learner - Mathematics (We employ two subject Lead Learners in our core subjects)

Aylesford
Salary: TLR 2B
Closing Date: 11/05/2009
To apply/more information:
Jill.Mckenna
Aylesford School - Sports
College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Teacher of Maths

Aylesford
Salary: MPS
Closing Date: 11/05/2009
Aylesford School - Sports
College Roll 860 11 - 18 Mixed
Foundation Secondary School
Teacher of Mathematics Main
Scale Aylesford School - Sports
College is an innovative forward
looking Specialist Sports
College. We have a strong
community ethos where we put
the learner at the heart of
everything we do. At Aylesford
School - Sports College we can
offer you:- * A brand new
school. * Outstanding new
facilities in all areas. * NQT/
New staff induction package
that is second to none. * A
highly regarded CPD
programme with personal
professional pathways. * Your
own laptop. * A buzzing and
vibrant staff who are friendly
and keen to help one another. *
A forward looking curriculum
with individualised pathways for
students. We are looking for a
committed professional who:- *
Can start in September. * Can
motivate pupils through the
curriculum. * Has the desire to
make the difference. * Is
focused on developing their
career further. * Is able to teach
Mathematics at all key stages.
The School is committed to



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safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. For an application pack please contact Miss Jill McKenna on 01622 717341 ext 204 or email your request to jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

To apply/more information:
Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Teacher of Physical Education

Aylesford
Salary: MPS
Closing Date: 11/05/2009
To apply/more information:
Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Teacher of Science

Aylesford
Salary: MPS
Closing Date: 11/05/2009
To apply/more information:
Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Section Manager - Construction Craft

Canterbury
Salary: £33,858 pa
Closing Date: Monday 11 May at 12 Noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/12
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Junior Liaison Officer

Ramsgate
Salary: NEG (May-September each year)
Closing Date: 6th May
To apply/more information:
Deborah Cook
Churchill House School of English
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email deborah.cook@churchillhouse.co.uk

Teacher for pupils with severe and profound learning difficulties

Rochester
Salary: See Below
To commence Sept 2009. MPS + 2 SEN Pts + TLR 2C (with previous experience) £2422. The school is located in pleasant surroundings and we have educational resources of enviable proportions. This post would suit newly qualified teachers or those wishing to gain further experience of SEN. Comprehensive induction and training will be provided. Telephone enquiries and informal visits to the school welcomed. This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure. For further details and a job description, please contact Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent, ME2 3SP. (Tel: 01634 338224), stating the position for which you are applying.
To apply/more information:
Abbey Court School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 338224
Email taylil036@medway.org.uk

TEACHERS

Broadstairs

Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 12 Noon 8th May 2009
To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 608727
Email personnel@bradstow.wandswoth.sch.uk

TEACHER OF ENGLISH

Sandwich
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Friday 8 May 2009
To cover a maternity period Required from September 2009, a suitably qualified, experienced and enthusiastic person to make a significant contribution in our successful English Department. Applications are welcome from NQTs. Teacher of Science and Teacher of ICT KS4 & 5 also required for September 2009. An information pack and application form are available from the school: Sandwich Technology School, Deal Road, Sandwich, Kent. CT13 0FA Tel: 01304 610013 Fax: 01304 610100 www.sandwich-tech.kent.sch.uk e-mail: stella.leitner@sandwich-tech.kent.sch.uk
To apply/more information:
Sandwich Technology School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 610013
Email stella.leitner@sandwich-tech.kent.sch.uk

TEACHER OF SCIENCE

Gravesend
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 8 May 2009
To apply/more information:
St George's CoE School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescoe.kent.sch.uk

PRINCIPAL TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS

Gravesend
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 8 May 2009
To apply/more information:
St George's CoE School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescoe.kent.sch.uk

TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS

Gravesend
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 8 May 2009
Required for September 2009 Main Pay Scale. We are looking for a well-qualified and innovative mathematician. Saint George's C of E School is a successful, innovative and over-subscribed comprehensive school. These posts come at an exciting time for the school as we are preparing for new buildings under Wave 4 of BSF. Contact us to request further details and an application form. Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescoe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website www.saintgeorgescoe.kent.sch.uk. Closing Date : 8 May 2009
To apply/more information:
St George's CoE School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescoe.kent.sch.uk

2 i/c Science Faculty

Gillingham
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Monday 11 May 2009
To apply/more information:
Rainham School for Girls
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 362746
Email dfrancis@rsg.org.uk

TEACHER OF ART

Deal
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 8 May 2009
To apply/more information:
Walmer Science College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 375212
Email admin@walmersciencecollege.co.uk

Lecturer Animal Care and Horse Studies

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 PA
Closing Date: Monday 11 May at 12 Noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 02/59
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Supply Lecturer - Counselling

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 PA pro rata
Closing Date: Monday 11 May at 12 Noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/COU
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

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01303 817040

Supply Lecturer Higher Education - Fine Art

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata pa
Closing Date: Monday 11 May at 12 Noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/HE/FA
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Trainer Demonstrator Fabrication and Welding

Canterbury
Salary: £18,963 pa
Closing Date: Monday 11 May at 12 Noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: TD3
Tel: 01227 811282
Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

KS1 or LOWER KS2 TEACHER

Dartford
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 8 May 2009
WE ARE SEEKING TO APPOINT AN ENTHUSIASTIC TEACHER TO WORK IN KS1 OR YEAR 3 OR YEAR 4. THIS POSITION WOULD BE SUITABLE FOR EXPERIENCED TEACHERS AND NQT'S. APPLICANTS ARE ASKED TO IDENTIFY CURRICULUM AREAS IN WHICH THEY CAN OFFER EXPERTISE. THE SCHOOL HAS A COMMITMENT TO THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF STAFF. WEST HILL IS A SUCCESSFUL AND POPULAR SCHOOL WITH WELL BEHAVED AND MOTIVATED CHILDREN. AT THE HEART OF THE SCHOOL'S PHILOSOPHY IS THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WHOLE CHILD. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SCHOOL PLEASE SEND FOR AN INFORMATION PACK. VISITS TO THE SCHOOL ARE WARMLY WELCOMED. COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE HEADTEACHER BY 8TH MAY 2009. WEST HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL DARTFORD ROAD,

DARTFORD, KENT DA1 3DZ TEL: 01322 226019 FAX: 01322 220121 E-MAIL: office@west-hill.kent.sch.uk

To apply/more information:
West Hill Primary School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01322 226019
Email office@west-hill.kent.sch.uk

UPPER KS2 TEACHER

Dartford
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 8 May 2009
TEMPORARY POSITION REQUIRED FROM SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2009 A 0.4 FTE UPPER KS2 TEACHER WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF THIS BEING EXTENDED. A TEACHER TO RELEASE THE DEPUTY HEAD FOR 2 DAYS EACH WEEK. THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT MUST BE COMMITTED TO HIGH EXPECTATIONS, HAVE A THOROUGH KNOWLEDGE OF THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM. APPLICANTS MUST BE COMMITTED TO FULLY CONTRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF THE SCHOOL. WEST HILL IS A SUCCESSFUL AND POPULAR SCHOOL WITH WELL BEHAVED AND MOTIVATED CHILDREN. AT THE HEART OF THE SCHOOL'S PHILOSOPHY IS THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WHOLE CHILD. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SCHOOL PLEASE SEND FOR AN INFORMATION PACK. VISITS TO THE SCHOOL ARE WARMLY WELCOMED. COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THE HEADTEACHER BY 8TH MAY 2009. WEST HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL DARTFORD ROAD, DARTFORD, KENT DA1 3DZ TEL: 01322 226019 FAX: 01322 220121 E-MAIL: office@west-hill.kent.sch.uk

To apply/more information:
West Hill Primary School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01322 226019
Email office@west-hill.kent.sch.uk

Learning Resource Centre Assistant

Medway
Salary: £9,939 - £17,750 pro rata
Closing Date: Friday 15 May 2009
37 hours per week, 40 weeks per year. We are looking for an enthusiastic candidate to assist the efficient running of the Learning Resource Centre, ensuring the delivery of high quality, customer focused, easily accessible services to all users. The successful candidate will be responsible for Library administrative and organisational duties and have good communication and IT skills. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.

To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0342
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Technician in Beauty
Medway
Salary: £11,479 - £17,750
Closing Date: Friday 15 May 2009
The College is looking to recruit a highly motivated individual to provide guidance and support to learners and assist with the running of various Clinics. You will be able to demonstrate good organisational and communication skills and relevant experience within the beauty industry would be advantageous. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.

To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0282
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Public Services
Medway
Salary: £20.37 - £28.67 per hour
Closing Date: Friday 15 May 2009
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: SE008
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Hourly Paid Lecturer in IT

Medway
Salary: £20.37 - £28.67 per hour
Closing Date: Friday 15 May 2009
The College is looking to recruit a passionate individual to teach BTEC National and First Diploma IT programmes. The successful candidate will have or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification and be able to deliver Key Skills to a level 2 standard. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.

To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: SE006
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Hair Design

Medway
Salary: £25,895 - £29,622 pro rata
Closing Date: Friday 15 May 2009
22 hours per week We have an exciting opportunity to recruit a passionate individual to teach assess and contribute to the development of Hair Design programmes. The applicant must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and should hold or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.

To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0342
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Technician in Beauty

Medway
Salary: £11,479 - £17,750
Closing Date: Friday 15 May 2009
The College is looking to recruit a highly motivated individual to provide guidance and support to learners and assist with the running of various Clinics. You will be able to demonstrate good organisational and communication skills and relevant experience within the beauty industry would be advantageous. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.

To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0277
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Business

Medway
Salary: £20.37 - £28.67 per hour
Closing Date: Friday 15 May 2009
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: SE005
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Plumbing and Heating

Medway
Salary: £20.37 - £28.67 per hour
Closing Date: Friday 15 May 2009
An opportunity has arisen within the Construction and Engineering Department for a Lecturer to contribute to the delivery and development of Level 3 Plumbing, Heating and Gas Programmes. The successful candidate will have current knowledge of the Building Engineering Industry and a recognised teaching qualification or be willing to work towards one; an Assessors qualification would be advantageous. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Healthcare

Medway
Salary: £20.37 - £28.67 per hour
Closing Date: Friday 15 May 2009
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: SE004
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Childcare

Medway
Salary: £20.37 - £28.67 per hour
Closing Date: Friday 15 May 2009
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: SE009
Tel: 01634 884402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Teacher of Music

Aylesford
Salary: MPS
Closing Date: 11th May 2009
Aylesford School - Sports College is an innovative forward looking Specialist Sports College. We have a strong community ethos where we put the learner at the heart of everything we do. This is an exciting and growing area of the School, with the music timetable and curriculum set to expand over the next few years. It would therefore be an advantage if the candidate would be willing to offer another subject in addition to music, initially. At Aylesford School - Sports College we can offer you: * A brand new school. * Outstanding new facilities in all areas. * NQT/ New staff induction package that is second to none. * A highly regarded CPD programme with personal professional pathways. * Your own laptop. * A buzzing and

vibrant staff who are friendly and keen to help one another. * A forward looking curriculum with individualised pathways for students. We are looking for a committed professional who: * Is able to start in September. * Can motivate pupils through the curriculum. * Has the desire to make the difference. * Is focussed on developing their career further. * Is able to teach Music at all key stages including Key Stage 5. If you are keen to join our team at this exciting time in the development of our school please contact Miss Jill McKenna, on 01622-717341 ext 204 or email your request to jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk. Closing date is: Monday 11th May 2009 at 3pm Interview to be held: Friday 15th May 2009.
To apply/more information:
Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Teaching Assistant x 2

Dover
Salary: £14,099 - £15,984 Pro rata
Closing Date: Monday 11 May 2009
To apply/more information:
Harbour School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 201964
Email office@harbour.kent.sch.uk

Transport Manager (May - September)

Ramsgate
Salary: Dependent upon experience (May to Sept)
Closing Date: 8th May
SEASONAL VACANCY MAY-SEPTEMBER YEAR ON YEAR
Main responsibilities will be preparing and organising/overseeing a transfer system for all our students that arrive in the UK. You will be expected to plan all aspects of the transfer, including chasing flight details, flight confirmation, coach/taxi bookings and dealing with any other queries. In addition you will where necessary undertake the following duties: Courier Bookings, Student intake duties, Allocation of transport staff, Assist in gathering information for school trips, Student welfare. The ideal candidate would be one who would be available every summer to manage this operation. Would have excellent communication skills with the ability to communicate with a wide range of people, be highly IT literate, well organised and capable of working under pressure. Experience dealing with airport transfers and foreign travellers would be an advantage but not essential as full training will be given.
To apply/more information:
Churchill House School of English
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email johnc@churchillhouse.co.uk

CELTA QUALIFIED TEACHERS

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
From June until December 2009
A dynamic, flexible and creative

SOCIAL ORGANISER-Immediate start. For further information please contact info@aesfolkestone.co.uk or call 01303 210808. We also require HOST FAMILIES. For details contact Eliana on 01303 210808.

To apply/more information:
Academy of English
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 210808
Email info@aesfolkestone.co.uk

TEACHER OF ENGLISH

Maidstone
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 11th May 2009
Maternity Cover Required for September 2009 for two terms: a well-qualified and enthusiastic graduate to teach to GCSE and A Level. The successful candidate would also be expected to contribute to the extra-curricular life of the school. Salary will be on the school's own scale. Further details, including an information pack, are available from Sarah O'Connell, the Headmaster's PA: telephone 01622 845203 or e-mail: hmscc@svs.org.uk
Closing date for applications: 11th May 2009. Interviews: Tuesday 19th May 2009
Sutton Valence School is an equal opportunities employer and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.
To apply/more information:
Sutton Valence School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 845203
Email hmscc@svs.org.uk

TEACHER OF HUMANITIES

Gravesend
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 15 May 2009
Required for September 2009 Main Pay Scale. We require a well-qualified, enthusiastic and innovative teacher of humanities who is committed to raising the achievement of our students. Saint George's C of E School is a successful, innovative and over-subscribed Humanities College. This post comes at an exciting time for the school as we are preparing for new buildings under Wave 4 of BSF. Saint George's C of E School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks. Contact us to request further details and an application form. Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS Tel: 01474 533082 Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescoe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website www.saintgeorgescoe.kent.sch.uk. Closing Date : 15 May 2009
To apply/more information:
St George's CoE School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 533082
Email dhariwalj@saintgeorgescoe.kent.sch.uk

LEARNING MENTOR

Gravesend
Salary: £15,586 - £17,098
Closing Date: 19 May 2009
For Years 12 & 13 KS6 Pts 17-20 £18,471 - £20,262 (pro-rata) £15,586 - £17,098 (actual) 37 hours per week / Term Time Only + 5 days (39 weeks). We are seeking a Learning Mentor to support students in reaching their full potential. Applicants will need to have a good relationship with students and an understanding of the issues that hinder learning. Strong communication skills to work with individuals, groups, teachers, families and carers will be needed. Saint George's C of E School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks. Contact us to request further

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details and an application form. Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS Tel: 01474 533082 Email dharirwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk. Closing Date : 19 May 2009.

To apply/more information: St George's CoE School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01474 533082
 Email dharirwalj@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS

Gravesend
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Monday 18 May 2009

Maternity Cover - September 2009 Main Professional Grade We are looking for a well-qualified and enthusiastic Teacher of Mathematics to join a highly successful Faculty. The person appointed would be required to teach up to A' Level. Maths is a very popular option with students and a high proportion go on to study a Mathematical course in Higher Education. The person appointed will receive high quality mentoring and support. The Faculty enjoys excellent facilities and equipment. We have been a Specialist Science College since September 2004; this has led to a broad range of innovative practice across the school and we are looking to develop cross-curricular projects involving Mathematics. The School has a high profile for achievement locally and nationally and prides itself on a strong record of internal professional development including a full induction in the Summer term. The School is also an Investor in People and an Investor in Careers.

Application forms and further details are available from the Headteacher's Personal Assistant, Mrs M Tong Ralphs. Completed forms should be returned by post, fax or email for the attention of Mrs E Wilson, Headteacher no later than Monday 18th May 2009 Gravesend Grammar School for Girls A Specialist Science College Pelham Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0JE Telephone: 01474 352896 Fax: 01474 331195 Website: www.gsgs.org.uk email: enquiries@gsgs.org.uk This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

To apply/more information: Gravesend Grammar School for Girls
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01474 352896
 Email enquiries@gsgs.org.uk

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

Domestic Appliance Engineer

Ashford
Salary: TBA

We require a qualified Domestic Appliance Engineer. Good rates of pay and benefits including vehicle, healthcare, training and uniform. C.V.'s to Mr Pluckrose, Ashbridge Domestic Appliances, Unit 2, Bridge Road, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1BB.

To apply/more information: Mr Pluckrose
 Ashbridge Domestic Appliances
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Estate Agency, Property

Estate Agents

Herne Bay
Salary: TBA

Join Our Team. If you have more than 5 years experience in estate agency and can demonstrate a determination to succeed contact us today on 0845 463 2896 or email info@kea.org.uk.

To apply/more information: Kent Estate Agencies
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 0845 463 2896
 Email info@kea.org.uk

Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

MIS TECHNICIAN

Gillingham
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 8 May 09

12MONTH FIXED TERM CONTRACT Maintenance of the computer network in the UK including PC's, Macs, printers and control of all IT consumables. Responsibilities to include proper security for the network, including virus protection, maintaining software applications and keeping an up to date inventory of IT hardware and software licences including regular PC audits to ensure full compliance with FAST membership. Full involvement in new software implementations is required including testing and training of end users. Responsibility also for the phone system and European intranet. Some database development and occasional support of the European operation. Dreamweaver experience an advantage. You'll enjoy a full range of employee benefits.

To apply please send your CV to HR Department, Fuji Seal Europe Ltd, Scimitar Close, Gillingham Business Park, Gillingham, Kent ME8 0RJ or alternatively you can email to jobs@uk.fujiseal.com. Previous applicants need not apply. Closing date: 08 May 2009 Strictly no agencies. Fuji Seal Europe are an equal opportunities employer.

To apply/more information: Fuji Seal Europe Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Email jobs@uk.fujiseal.com

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01303 817040

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Foster Carers

Sittingbourne
Salary: TBA

• CAN YOU PROVIDE A SAFE AND CARING HOME FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN? • ARE YOU AN EXPERIENCED CARER LOOKING FOR A NEW CHALLENGE OR CHANGE? • BENECARE OFFERS • EXCELLENT RATES OF PAY • REAL SUPPORT AND RESPITE SYSTEMS FOR CARERS • EXCELLENT TRAINING AND GUIDANCE FROM OUR QUALIFIED AND VERY EXPERIENCED TEAM We would love to hear from you if you are interested or involved in Fostering and would like additional information. Please contact.... 01227 362510 or Email info@benecarefostering.co.uk Web www.benecarefostering.co.uk

To apply/more information: Bene Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01227 362510
 Email info@benecarefostering.co.uk

RGN/SEN Footnurses

Maidstone
Salary: TBA

RGN/SEN Footnurses required with current NMC essential Must be willing to travel throughout Borough of Maidstone. Full driving licence

and own transport essential. Training provided. Remuneration for each client treated will be paid plus travelling expenses. For application form etc please phone 01622 753618, or visit 11 Mill Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6XW. Both positions will be subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

To apply/more information: Age Concern Maidstone
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01622 753618
 Email info@ageconcernmaidstone.org.uk

VICTIM LIAISON OFFICER

Folkestone
Salary: £19,500 pa

We are looking to recruit a VICTIM LIAISON OFFICER to work within the Folkestone Youth Offending Team helping victims of crime access Restorative Justice processes. Starting salary 19,500pa - Own car essential (mileage allowance paid) The post holder will need to have good communication and IT skills. Training will be provided. For an application pack please email mediationscheme@btconnect.com.

To apply/more information: Maidstone Mediation
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Email mediationscheme@btconnect.com

DEPUTY MANAGER

Romney Marsh
Salary: £18,000 - £20,000 p.a
Closing Date: 22 May 2009

VACANCY FOR A DEPUTY MANAGER IN A CARE HOME REGISTERED FOR 29 YOUNG ADULTS WITH AUTISM / ASPERGERS SYNDROME NVQ 4 in Care Qualified preferred, however other relevant Qualifications considered, funding available for NVQ 4 Two years experience in a managerial position working with young adults with autism spectrum conditions Driver essential. Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm plus on call Salary dependent on qualifications & experience £18,000 - £20,000 p.a. Closing date for application 22 May 2009. For an application form & job description please phone 01797 363550. The Springs Community, St. Mary's Bay, Kent

To apply/more information: Springs Community (The)
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01797 363550
 Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Victim Liaison Officer

Gravesend
Salary: £19,500 p a
 To work within the Tonbridge &

Gravesend, Youth Offending Teams, helping young offenders and victims of their crime. Own car essential, excellent communication and organisational skills for application pack contact: West Kent Mediation. e-mail: theooffice@wkm.ork.uk. Tel: 01322 615774.

To apply/more information: West Kent Mediation Service
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01322 615774
 Email theooffice@wkm.ork.uk

Assistant Workshop Manager

Faversham
Salary: £9,360

The Arden Workshop is a 'Big Lottery' funded Mental Health Project offering practical activity through Art, Crafts and Woodwork, to empower people to re-enter mainstream society. The Assistant Workshop Manager must be motivated and self disciplined and have the ability to assist the Manager to both organise the daily running of the Workshops, and to have the skills required to instigate, activate and oversee the projects made in the Arden Workshop. Art /Craft and Woodworking skills are essential as you will need to provide art/craft and woodworking based activities. This is a position which requires a confident and responsible person who is patient and caring and has an empathy with vulnerable young adults. The position will require a CRB check. Hours of work are Mon - Thurs inclusive 9.30 - 3.30. Salary £9360 per annum following a 3 month probationary period. Applications should be made in writing to:- The Centre Manager Faversham Umbrella, Umbrella Building, Court St. Faversham, Kent. ME13 7AT. We are an equal opportunity employer

To apply/more information: Faversham Umbrella
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Email faversham@btconnect.com

Other

Host Families

Thanat

Salary: Good Rates of Pay

Host Families required in Ramsgate and Birchington. We require caring host families for our overseas students. 24 hour emergency contact would be available as well as the full support of our established language school. You would be expected to provide breakfast and dinner Monday to Friday and all meals at weekends. For more information telephone Susan on 01843 582622.

To apply/more information: Churchill House School of English
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Email susanthompson@churchillhouse.co.uk

Public Sector, Social Services

Resident Involvement Manager

Sevenoaks
Salary: £28,520 PA
Closing Date: 18 May 2009

West Kent Extra (WKE) is a thriving community development charity based in Sevenoaks and working with communities in west Kent and beyond. We are a subsidiary of West Kent Housing Association, one of the UK's leading housing providers. The national agenda on resident involvement is changing, with the formation of the Tenant Services Authority (TSA) and a move towards resident-led self-regulation. We are looking for someone who understands these changes and will work with our staff and tenants to ensure we make positive changes to the way we work. We have a proud tradition of resident involvement and this is a great opportunity for you to join an established and successful housing association, as part of our Operational Management Team. You should have a passion for working with tenants and customers and the drive and commitment to ensure they are able to influence and engage with us, in a positive and productive way. You will be an excellent communicator able to connect with a range of tenants, staff and partner agencies to promote the value of resident involvement. You should be able to work well on your own initiative, contribute to an existing team and be prepared to go the extra mile to ensure customer satisfaction. You will need to have driving licence and access to a vehicle for business use. The post includes an Essential Car Users Allowance and is subject to an enhanced CRB check. For more information and to download an application pack, please visit our website or call Colleen Coope on 01732 749420.

To apply/more information: West Kent Housing
Quoting Job Ref: KOS/WKE020
 Tel: 01732 749420
 Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

Catalogue Distributors

Kent
Salary: £50-£300 per week

£50-£300 per week. Flexi hours, Part or full time 18+-. Tel: 01622 808617 www.aim2aspire.co.uk

To apply/more information: Goldchasers
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01622 808617
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Sales Agents

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 30 April 2009

There's a brand new name in Folkestone. Direct Choice. And that means terrific career opportunities for people who believe that the customer comes first every time. Who's Direct Choice? We're the growing business that delivers great value insurance products over the phone and online. For our team, success is all about delighting our customers. Listening to them, understanding what they need and providing a brilliant service. If that sounds like your kind of company, then you could help us build the future of our new contact centre at the former Eurotunnel offices just off the M20 in Cheriton. There's full training, not to mention ongoing support every step of the way. So while contact centre experience would be ideal, it's

certainly not essential if you've excellent communication skills and helpful personality. As part of the Acromas family - that also includes sga and The AA - we can offer outstanding opportunities for career progression and a first-rate benefits package. You'll need to be target driven and able to rise to new challenges, that's for sure. But above all, you must share our commitment to delivering the best service to each and every customer. To apply, please send your application form including the appropriate reference number to Kerry Harrison, HR Officer, Saga group limited, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 3SE or email. Please call 01303 774888 for an application form or download one from www.saga.co.uk www.directchoice.com

To apply/more information: Saga
Quoting Job Ref: SG291/KOS
 Tel: 01303 774888
 Email human.resources@saga.co.uk

Sales Agents

Folkestone
Salary: £16k - £18k OTE
Closing Date: 15 May 09

To apply/more information: Saga
Quoting Job Ref: SVS294/KOS
 Tel: 01303 774888
 Email human.resources@saga.co.uk

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PUBLIC NOTICES

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL NOTICE UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 SECTION 123(2A)

LAND AT WINTERFIELD ESTATE EAST MALLING

Notice is hereby given that Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council intends to dispose of an area of land for the construction of a footpath link, from the Winterfield Estate East Malling to the A20 London Road (as identified on the plans which are available for inspection at Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council offices at the address below) which consists of part of an open space.

Objections to the intended disposal of land must be made in writing and addressed to:

Katie Iggulden (BSC HONS) MRICS
 Estates Services Manager, Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council
 Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill,
 West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ

By no later than 1 June 2009
 Dated the 3 day of May 2009

DAVID HUGHES
 CHIEF EXECUTIVE



TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS - NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS

The following application has been submitted to the Council and is being advertised for the reason given.

TM/09/00804/FL - Lympstone Grange Road Platt Sevenoaks Kent TN15 8ND - Mr Norman Charman is applying for erection of a single two storey dwelling. Reason: CA

Reason for the case being publicised:

CA Application is within/affects a Conservation Area

These applications are displayed on our website www.tmbc.gov.uk - click on the button "Do It Online" and follow the instructions for "Planning Applications" online. You can submit your comments by emailing to planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk (please quote the application number by the date set out below). Please note that we will publish a copy of any representations received on the Council's website, including your name and address.

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ. Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 24 May 2009.

David Hughes
 Chief Executive

3 May 2009



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KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
VARIOUS ROADS, WEST KENT AREA (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting all vehicular traffic to travelling at a speed not exceeding 50mph on the roads as noted in Schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 18th May 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to take place in two blocks as noted in the attached schedule. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

Schedule 1

Road Name	Extent	Phase 1 Dates	Phase 2 Dates
A206 Bob Dunn Way, Dartford	Whole Length	N/A	31/8/09 for 5 days
A2018 Shepherds Lane, Dartford	A2 to B2174 Princes Road	16/7/09 for 1 day	5/11/09 for 1 day
B2174 Princes Road, Dartford	A2018 Shepherds Lane to Heath Lane	17/7/09 for 1 day	6/11/09 for 1 day
A296 Princes Road, Dartford	Park Road to Gore Road	21/7/09 for 1 day	9/11/09 for 1 day
A206 Crossways Boulevard, Dartford	Cotton Lane to Station Road	28/7/09 for 15 days	17/11/09 for 5 days
B255 St Clements Way, Dartford	A2 to A226 London Road	21/7/09 for 5 days	10/11/09 for 5 days
A249 Detling Hill/ Sittingbourne Road, Maidstone	From M20 to Bearsted Road	26/5/09 for 14 days	14/9/09 for 15 days
A20 Coldharbour Lane, Maidstone	From M20 to St Laurence Avenue	15/6/09 for 2 days	5/10/09 for 2 days
A229 Bluebell Hill, Maidstone/ Aylesford	From Running Horse Roundabout to Lord Lees Gyrotary System	17/6/09 for 6 days	7/10/09 for 6 days
A228 Snodland Bypass, Snodland	Between Ham Hill Roundabout and Holborough Road Roundabout	25/6/09 for 2 days	15/10/09 for 2 days
A228 Castle Way, Leybourne	M20 Junction 4 Roundabout to Ham Hill Roundabout	29/6/09 for 1 day	19/10/09 for 3 days
A228 Branbridges Road/Boyle Way, East Peckham	From B2160 Maidstone Road to B2015 Maidstone Road	2/7/09 for 4 days	21/10/09 for 4 days
A26 London Road, Tonbridge	From A26 Quarry Hill Road to end of Dual Carriageway Section	8/7/09 for 1 day	28/10/09 for 1 day
A228 Castle Way/ Ashton Way, West Malling	M20 Junction 4 Roundabout to Kings Hill Roundabout	9/7/09 for 5 days	29/10/09 for 5 days
A25 Sevenoaks Road, Ightham	From Rectory Lane to Pillarbox Lane	17/8/09 for 1 day	7/12/09 for 1 day
A25 Ightham Bypass, Ightham	From Rectory Lane to Borough Green Road	17/8/09 for 1 day	7/12/09 for 1 day
A228 Pembury Road, Tunbridge Wells	A264 Pembury Road to Tonbridge Road	18/8/09 for 1 day	8/12/09 for 1 day
A20 London Road, Swanley	A225 Dartford Road to M25 Junction 3 Roundabout	13/8/09 for 1 day	3/12/09 for 1 day
A225 Sevenoaks Road/Otford Road, Sevenoaks	From Bubblestone Road to the Riverside Retail Park	4/8/09 for 1 day	24/11/09 for 1 day
A224 Polhill, Sevenoaks	From Morants Court Road to Shoreham Lane	5/8/09 for 3 days	25/11/09 for 3 days
A20 Swanley Bypass, Swanley	M25 Junction 3 Roundabout to Border with London Borough of Bexley	10/8/09 for 3 days	30/11/09 for 3 days
A25 Westerham Road, Sevenoaks	Larkfield Road to Dryhill Lane	17/8/09 for 1 day	4/12/09 for 1 day
A289 Hasted Road, Higham	Whole Length	18/5/09 for 5 days	7/9/09 for 5 days

The purpose of the Order is to ensure the safety of workforce whilst Highway Maintenance Works are carried out.

Highways - Borough of Ashford

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS) (BOROUGH OF ASHFORD) (SPEED LIMITS) (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT No 7) ORDER 2009

Notice is hereby given that the KENT COUNTY COUNCIL proposes to make the above named Order under section 84(1), (2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, (hereinafter called "the Act") and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with paragraph 20 of Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act,

The effect of the proposed Order will introduce the 30 mph speed limit on the following lengths of road.

BLIBY LANE
From the junction with Finn Farm Road and Cheeseman's Green Lane for a distance of approximately 460 metres in a southerly direction.

CHEESEMAN'S GREEN LANE
From the junction with Bliby Lane and Finn Farm Road for a distance of approximately 260 metres in an easterly direction

FINN FARM ROAD
From a point 50 metres west of the junction with Violet Way to the junction with Bliby Lane and Cheeseman's Green Lane.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, between 9.00am and 5pm, at Kent Highway Services, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford and at Invicta House, Maidstone.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to the Kent Highway Services, Ashford Highway Depot, Javelin Way, Henwood Industrial Estate, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to robert.mowl@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 24 May 2009.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, ASHFORD) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because footway works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on various roads, Ashford from as described in column 1 of the schedule to this order on or after 18 May 2009 for an estimated period of three weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via as described in column 3 of the schedule to this order

Specified Road	Length of Road Affected	Alternative Routes
Star Road, Ashford	Entire length	No alternative route
Wallis Road, Ashford	Entire length	No alternative route
Dering Road, Ashford	Entire length	No alternative route
Star Road, Wallis Road and Dering Road, Ashford	The Kent County Council (Ashford) (Traffic Regulation) (Star Road, Wallis Road and Dering Road) (One Way) Order 1997 Part D is temporarily suspended for the duration of this order	

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(ROMAN ROAD, ALDINGTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the installation of a new electrical supply, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Roman Road, Aldington from outside the property Cobb's Hall, west for a distance of 200 metres, from 5 May 2009 for an estimated period of one week or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Roman Road, Knoll Hill, Gigger's Green Road, Boat Lane, New Road Hill and Forge Hill.

Highways - Borough of Dartford

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
NURSTEAD LANE, LONGFIELD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Nurstead Lane, Longfield between B260 Longfield Road and Nurstead Avenue.

The Order will become effective on 18th May 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last 18 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Longfield Hill, A227 Wrotham Road and Park Hill.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate connection to telecommunications compound on behalf of BT

Highways - Borough of Gravesham

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
HENLEY STREET, LUDDESDOWN (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Henley Street, Luddesdown between its junctions with Gold Street.

The Order will become effective on 18th May 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last 12 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Gold Street.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate drainage works to be carried out by Kent Highway Services.

Highways - Boroughs of Maidstone/Tonbridge & Malling

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(A249 DETLING HILL/ SITTINGBOURNE ROAD AT DETLING, THURNHAM AND STOCKBURY & A229 BLUEBELL HILL, AYLESFORD) (30MPH & 10 MPH CONVOY WORKING SPEED RESTRICTIONS) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic traveling at any speed greater than 30mph and 10mph for the implementation of convoy working.

This restriction will be at various locations as required on the A249 Detling Hill/Sittingbourne Road between the roundabout at junction 7 of the M20 motorway to the Stockbury roundabout at junction 5 of the M2 motorway in both directions of travel and on the A229 Bluebell Hill, Aylesford between the Lord Lees roundabout to the start of the A229 Chatham Road in both directions of travel.

The order will become effective on 18th May 2009 and will be in operation at times when required when indicated by signage on site. The anticipated dates of the restrictions will be for the A249 between 26th May to 18th June 2009 and for the A229 between 18th May to 5th June 2009. The restrictions will be in place overnight only.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to facilitate power supplies to CCTV and recognition cameras. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Anne Padfield on 01634 385500.

Highways - Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(A20 ASHFORD ROAD OVERBRIDGE OVER THE MOTORWAY LINK ROAD AT JUNCTION 8 OF THE M20 MOTORWAY) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because of the likelihood of danger to the public using a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the A20 Ashford Road Overbridge over the motorway link road at junction 8 of the M20 Motorway on or after Monday 4th May 2009 for a period of up to 6 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for eastbound traffic via A20 Ashford Road and the roundabout at the A20 junction M20 motorway access road.

InterTraffic apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for maintenance works on the embankments of the bridge. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Salim Muniru on 01634 385500.

Highways - District of Sevenoaks

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
CROUCH HOUSE ROAD, EDENBRIDGE (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Crouch House Road, Edenbridge between its junctions with Hilders Lane and Lingfield Road.

The Order will become effective on 18th May 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last 4 months. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Hilders Lane, Station Road, Mont St Aignan Way, Lingfield Road

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate essential repair and maintenance to the rail bridge.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
HOSEY COMMON ROAD, WESTERHAM (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Hosey Common Road, Westerham between the two boundaries of property numbered 6.

The Order will become effective on 4th May 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last 2 weeks and commence on 5th May 2009. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Kent Hatch Road, A25 Westerham Road, A25 High Street, A25 Vicarage Hill.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate electric cabling diversion works and water mains diversion works.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
WOOD STREET, SWANLEY (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Wood Street, Swanley between its junctions with Button Street and Gildenhall Road.

The Order will become effective on 4th May 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last 1 week and commence on 5th May 2009. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Azo London Road, A225 Dartford Road and Ship Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate electric cabling works to be undertaken on behalf of EDF Energy.

Highways - District of Shepway

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(MELON LANE, IVYCHURCH) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because telegraph pole and aerial cable works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Melon Lane, Ivychurch from the junction with Ashford Road to the junction with Newchurch Lane on 4 May 2009 for an estimated period of 5 days working 08:00am to 17:00pm or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Ashford Road and Newchurch Road.

Highways - District of Swale

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CHURCH ROAD, EASTCHURCH) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the installation of a new electrical supply, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Church Road, Eastchurch, at the rear of 84 High Street, on or after 19 May 2009 for an estimated period of one week or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via High Street, Rowetts Way and Church Road.

Highways - District of Thanet

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(THE PARADE, MARGATE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because new electrical service works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on The Parade, Margate from the junction of Market Street to the junction of King Street on or after 18 May 2009 for an estimated period of 5 working days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Market Street, Market Place, Lombard Street, Hawley Street and King Street.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT, 1984
(ZEBRA CROSSING - CANTERBURY ROAD EAST, RAMSGATE)

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council, as local traffic authority, and after consultation with the chief officer of police, propose to establish a crossing (Zebra) for pedestrians under Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all their enabling powers, as follows:

CANTERBURY ROAD EAST, RAMSGATE
6 metres west of the junction with Kendal Close, Ramsgate.

Highways - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS IN THE BOROUGH OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS) (i) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the routes described in Schedule 1.

The alternative route for each route described in Schedule 1 is described in Schedule 2. Access will be maintained up to the points of closure.

The Order will become effective on 18th May 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last for up to two days on each road. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place. The dates for works will be notified on site 14 days in advance.

Schedule 1

Road Name	Extent of Closure
Claytons Lane, Ashurst	Whole Length
Broad Oak Close, Tunbridge Wells	Whole Length
Showfields Road, Tunbridge Wells	Whole Length
Bayhall Road, Tunbridge Wells	Sibbys Corner
Vauxhall Lane, Southborough	Whole Length
Victoria Road, Southborough	Whole Length
Franks Hollow Road, Bidborough	Whole Length
Old House Lane, Speldhurst	Whole Length
Stockland Green Road, Speldhurst	Whole Length
Bentham Hill, Speldhurst	Whole Length
Sherenden Lane, Capel	Whole Length

Dislingbury Road, Capel	Dislingbury Farm to Pembury Walk
Spout Lane, Brencchley	Whole Length
Knowle Lane, Brencchley	Whole Length
Knowle Road, Brencchley	Whole Length
Hog Hole Lane, Lamberhurst	Whole Length
Rosemary Lane, Lamberhurst	Whole Length
Lidwells Lane, Goudhurst	Whole Length
Clayhill Road, Cranbrook	Whole Length
Marden Road, Cranbrook	Whole Length
Tilsden Lane, Cranbrook	Whole Length
Park Lane, Cranbrook	Whole Length
Badger Lane, Cranbrook	Whole Length
Water Lane, Hawkhurst	Whole Length
Whites Lane, Hawkhurst	Whole Length
Wellington Road, Hawkhurst	Whole Length
Sponden Lane, Hawkhurst	Whole Length
Conghurst Lane, Hawkhurst	Whole Length
Coldharbour Road, Benenden	Whole Length
Frogs Hole Lane, Benenden	Whole Length
Bishopden Lane, Benenden	Whole Length
Stepneyford Lane, Benenden	Whole Length
Woodcock Lane, Benenden	Whole Length

Schedule 2

Road Name	Diversion Route
Claytons Lane, Ashurst	No suitable diversion
Broad Oak Close, Tunbridge Wells	No suitable diversion
Showfields Road, Tunbridge Wells	No suitable diversion
Bayhall Road, Tunbridge Wells	Broadmead Avenue, Broadmead, Eridge Road, Broadwater Lane
Vauxhall Lane, Southborough	Pembury Road, Quarry Hill Road, A26 London Road
Victoria Road, Southborough	Constitutional Hill Road, Bentham Hill, Speldhurst Road, Kibbles Lane
Franks Hollow Road, Bidborough	Penshurst Road, Barden Road, Speldhurst Road, Stockland Green Road
Old House Lane, Speldhurst	Fordcombe Road, The Lane
Stockland Green Road, Speldhurst	Speldhurst Hill, Barden Road, Penshurst Road
Bentham Hill, Speldhurst	Etherington Hill, Kibbles Lane, Victoria Road
Sherenden Lane, Capel	Hartlake Road, Five Oak Green Road
Dislingbury Road, Capel	Amhurst Bank Road, Redwing Lane, A228 Maidstone Road, A21 Pembury Road
Spout Lane, Brencchley	Tong Road, Fairmans Lane, Horsmonden Road
Knowle Lane, Brencchley	Mile Oak Road, Pearson Green Road, Knowle Road
Knowle Road, Brencchley	Crook Road, Pixot Hill, Mile Oak Road, Pearson Green Road
Hog Hole Lane, Lamberhurst	Neills Road, Sleepers Stile, B2100 The Slade
Rosemary Lane, Lamberhurst	A21 London Road, B2087 High Street
Lidwells Lane, Goudhurst	North Road, Blind Lane
Clayhill Road, Cranbrook	Furnace Lane, A21 London Road
Marden Road, Cranbrook	Goudhurst Road, A262 Goudhurst Road
Tilsden Lane, Cranbrook	Stilebridge Lane, Underlynn Lane
Park Lane, Cranbrook	A229 Hawkhurst Road, A229 Cranbrook Road, A268 High Street, A268 Hawkhurst Road, London Road, Lady Oak Road
Badger Lane, Cranbrook	No Suitable Alternative route
Water Lane, Hawkhurst	A268 Rye Road, A229 Cranbrook Road, Potters Lane
Whites Lane, Hawkhurst	Queens Road, A268 Rye Road, Water Lane
Wellington Road, Hawkhurst	Patchwork Road, Slipmill Road
Sponden Lane, Hawkhurst	Crouch Lane, Hopehorse Lane, Standen Street, Mile Street
Conghurst Lane, Hawkhurst	B2244 Hastings Road, A229 Moorhill Road, A229 Highgate Hill, A268 Rye Road
Coldharbour Road, Benenden	Babbs Lane, B2086 Mounts Hill, New Pound Road
Frogs Hole Lane, Benenden	Mapleton Road
Bishopden Lane, Benenden	Green Lane, Benenden Road
Stepneyford Lane, Benenden	Green Lane, New Pond Road, The Street, Benenden Road
Woodcock Lane, Benenden	Standen Street, New Pound Road, The Street, Benenden Road, Ramsden Lane

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate carriageway patching works to be undertaken by Kent Highway Services.

Please Note: Access will be maintained for all residents, businesses and their visitors as much as possible during the works.

For further information or comment please call Mark Simmons of Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

TRIPLE H (DESIGN) LIMITED
Company No. 05871206
In Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation
I, Peter James Yeldon of Middleton Partners, 38 Langham Street, London W1W 7AR, give notice that I was appointed Liquidator of the above named company on 21/04/2009. Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above-named company which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before 21/07/2009 to prove their debts by sending to the undersigned Peter James Yeldon of Middleton Partners, 38 Langham Street, London W1W 7AR, the Liquidator of the company, written statements of the amounts they claim to be due to them from the company and, if so requested, to provide such further details or produce such documentary evidence as may appear to the Liquidator to be necessary. A creditor who has not proved this debt before the declaration of any dividend is not entitled to disturb, by reason that he has not participated in it, the distribution of that dividend or any other dividend declared before his debt was proved.
PETER JAMES YELDON,
Liquidator
T257115

The Insolvency Act 1986
NORTHDALE ESTATES LIMITED
(Company No: 4038715)
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at 288 High Street, Dorking, Surrey RH4 1QT on Wednesday 6th May 2009 at 11.00 am for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 to 101 of the said Act. Creditors wishing to vote at the Meeting must lodge their proxy, together with a full statement of account at the registered office - 288 High Street, Dorking, Surrey RH4 1QT, not later than 12.00 noon on 5 May 2009. For the purposes of voting, a secured Creditor is required (unless he surrenders his security) to lodge at 288 High Street, Dorking, RH4 1QT before the meeting, a statement giving particulars of his security, the date when it was given and the value at which it is assessed. Notice is further given that a list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors may be inspected, free of charge, at the offices of Sutcliffe & Co, 288 High Street, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1QT, between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the date of the meeting stated above.
Date: 17 April 2009
By Order of the Board
Jeremy S Page, Director

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Ford launch most focused Focus

FORD'S RS dynasty launched in 1970 with the Escort RS1600.

This sporting sub-brand – short for Rallye Sport – went on to develop a huge fanbase through RS editions spun from most major Ford ranges, including the Sierra, Fiesta and even the Capri.

This latest edition – the second Focus RS – is the most powerful European production Ford ever and the closest to the WRC (World Rally Championship) car. It's even more powerful than the legendary Cosworth Fords.

No prizes for guessing which demographic Ford is targeting through those big arches, grills, vents, skirts, 19-inch rims, blacked-out windows, dustbin exhausts and the largest spoiler Ford could use without people thinking it was a plane.

It comes in just three colours – Frozen White, Performance Blue and Ultimate Green – a palette mixed for those who want to stand out.

The car's 'full-on' looks mean that would-be buyers may struggle to find further excesses though – the vinyl sticker industry could be kept busy.

The inside is in yer face as well, with branded colour co-ordinated racing seats from everyone's favourite, Recaro. Some extra dials look good too, but have no real

FirstDrive

by

RICHARD PILTON

Ford Focus RS

use, and the cabin has been showered with extra carbon fibre and brushed aluminium trim with nice stainless steel pedals to polish it off.

However, the switches and general look of the cockpit remind you that it is a Ford and the back is adequate rather than roomy, with those enormous Recaros adding to a cocoon-like feeling. Claustrophobics beware.

Driving the RS is nothing less than a pleasure though; 300bhp and 0-60mph in 5.9 seconds should make any keen driver smile and the engineering makes you feel like a seasoned motorsport competitor.

Simply hit the 'launch' pedal, wait for traction control to wrestle with physics and the road ahead looks noticeably smaller. The performance is truly exhilarating and overtaking takes

less time than asking "Can I help you officer?"

The 2.5-litre turbocharged five-cylinder Volvo engine was used in the Focus ST, with just about everything changed before it is no longer the same.

Other than a turbo that doesn't seem to stop even when you whack the red line, you are also struck by the exhaust. It's loud, very loud, and beautifully loud – all at the same time.

It would have been nice to have all-wheel drive, but Ford engineers committed to front-wheel drive even before settling on how much power to offer.

As a result, the car lacks the planted feeling of Subaru Imprezas or Mitsubishi Evos. Nevertheless, torque steer or steering wheel wrestling is kept manageable and the death rate low by clever engineering called 'Revo Knuckles', which keeps the car pointing in the same direction when a driving wheel hits a puddle or loses traction.

This adds to spectacular grip and handling suited to patchy British roads, yet balanced by a comfortably firm ride that won't argue against giving granny a lift to the shops.

In short, it's a lot of car for a little under £25K. You won't be disappointed and you certainly won't get bored.



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08 58 NEW CORSA 1-2 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR ICE BLUE 4000 MILES.....	£8995
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08 08 ASTRA 1-8 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DOOR STAR BLACK 6000 MILES.....	£8495
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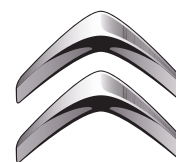
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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader



Qashqai gets 'N-tec' boost

NISSAN'S Qashqai crossover has been a huge hit for the company and its UK plant in Sunderland.

At a stroke, the car replaced at least three models in the Nissan line-up thanks to its versatile family hatch/MPV/SUV body style, which has since gained a stretched +2 seven-seat version too.

Now the Qashqai is getting teched up with the Nissan Connect

package seen on the smaller Micra and Note models, bringing Bluetooth connectivity, touch screen sat nav with 2D/3D map and full postcode search facility, CD with MP3/WMA playback, aux socket and USB port for full iPod connection.

The feature also makes its debut on an entirely new high-spec and value trim level called 'N-tec' (from

£17,645) between the existing mid-range Acenta and flagship Tekna – the latter gets an upgrade to move it further upmarket.

The new N-tec grade brings 18-inch alloys, panoramic glass roof, rear privacy glass plus satin silver roof rails and door handles.

All Qashqais (from £14,095) are offered currently with 36 months' zero per cent finance.

MX-5 fans say summer is here



MX-5 drivers defied gloomy weather forecasts and the economic outlook by gathering at Canterbury Mazda at the weekend.

Some 30 cars – tops down, of course – drove into the site on Broad Oak Road to celebrate the official launch of the latest MX-5 version and an unofficial start to the open-top driving season.

Not that members of the South East MX-5 Owners' Club regard their motors as fair weather transport; the Japanese roadster has been a paragon of all-season protection and there is now a folding hardtop (CC) model as well as the classic 'ragtop'.

Canterbury Mazda general manager, Kevin Ferrell, said: "We celebrated an icon. We had examples of Mark I, II and III MX-5s on show, a very rare Le Mans 24-Hour Race car and, of course, the newly revised model."

Octavia troupers' comeback

HAVING upgraded mainstream Octavia versions in late 2008, Skoda has now unveiled sporty vRS and rugged Scout facelifts. The vRS option has been a huge success for the VW-owned Czech brand since it appeared on the previous generation Octavia – 70 per cent were sold in estate form as canny owners realised they could get a cut-price performance load lugger to rival BMW and Audi's finest. The Scout, with its rough and tough adds-ons, 4x4 and high-riding stance, has also been popular for those who need some 'anywhere ability' without big off-roader bodywork. Prices to be confirmed.



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by
STEVE LOADER

IT IS a sad thing when dependability gets you a bad name, but it happened to the Toyota Corolla.

I recommended a used one to a friend who needed "a reliable car to commute halfway across the county" and I even secured a decent price for her, but she bought a second-hand Peugeot 307 instead – not as famous for bulletproof engineering.

Apparently, the Corolla was "too boring". "Ah, but you said reliability was top of your requirements," I replied. "And while you're at it, can you point out what is so interesting about a Peugeot 307?"

However, this does prove the point about the poor old Corolla; more than any other model, it made Toyota the world's No1 car-maker and became a byword for familiarity.

And we know that breeds contempt, so Toyota axed the name for European markets in 2007 and launched the Auris (pronounced Owris).

But it is still a Corolla everywhere else and doing what it has always done: insinuating itself into customers' affections by being dependable, inoffensive, practical and now, even more responsible.

For the Corolla, sorry, Auris line-up has



COROLLA IN DISGUISE: The Toyota Auris, set to take over its predecessor for reliability

had a shake-up with the arrival of new powertrains.

Most manufacturers offer eco versions of key models, but only Toyota is 'greening' whole car ranges by applying the Optimal Drive approach, which is essentially deconstructing and re-assembling the internal combustion engine.

For hard-pressed consumers, these revised powertrains save money and lighten the conscience by delivering apparently contradictory benefits: more power plus better economy with lower CO2 emissions/road tax.

Toyota has now brought the package to the hard-fought family hatch or Ford Focus class, with a revised Auris range (from £12,900)

including a UK-built 131bhp 1.6-litre petrol option with nine per cent better economy – it should average more than 40mpg – eight per cent lower CO2 emissions, but six per cent more power compared with its predecessor.

This at a time when consumers are turning away from the higher upfront cost and pump prices incurred by small-to-medium diesel cars.

The Auris range was augmented previously by an Optimal Drive 1.33-litre engine with Toyota's Stop & Start system to cut and re-start the engine in heavy traffic conditions, but the new look range includes other petrol and diesel options and simplified trim grading.

Can scrappage work for you?

WHATEVER the rights and wrongs of the scrappage scheme announced in the Budget, it is fact that some drivers qualify for £2,000 towards swapping and dumping their old car – providing they have owned it for 12 months.

It makes no sense for many of these though; if they could afford or aspired to a new car then they would not be running around in a 'banger' anyway, others may be driving an older car worth more than £2,000, while yet more will know that they should expect a £2,000 discount or more on a new car anyway, irrespective of a grant.

Indeed, market leader Ford says buyers can expect up to £5,000 off some of its cars, including the scrappage allowance.

Look at the extremes of the market to make best use of the scheme, though. A £2,000 grant buys a lot of any small car like the Hyundai i10 – Germany's scrappage scheme has boosted i10 sales by 662 per cent.

The little Hyundai, backed by a five-year warranty, starts at £7,145 and you would struggle to get a few hundred quid off normally when profit margins on small cars match their size. However, a £2,000 handout makes it more affordable to someone on a tight budget and it will be cheaper to fuel and tax and better for the environment.

At the other end of the scale, what about that Beemer you always wanted? Check out a BMW 116d (from £17,605).


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FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES IN MPG (L/100KM) FOR THE SOUL 2 ARE: URBAN: 35.8 (7.9); EXTRA URBAN: 49.6 (5.7); COMBINED: 43.5 (6.5). OFFICIAL CO₂ EMISSIONS ARE: 153 G/KM. Price correct at time of going to press and specification is subject to change without notice. *5-year unlimited mileage warranty. **Model shown is Kia Soul 2 1.6 at £11,495.00. On The Road (OTR) price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' Government vehicle Excise Duty (VED) and vehicle First Registration Fee. Metallic paint option available for an additional £375 inc. VAT. Job number 38043.

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the range shown are: Urban 37.2–54.3 (7.6–5.2), Extra Urban 57.6–70.6 (4.9–4.0), Combined 47.9–64.2 (5.9–4.4). The official CO₂ emission figures range from 117–139g/km. Price includes delivery to dealer, number plates, 15% VAT, 12 months' Government road fund licence and £55 first registration fee. Finance is subject to status. A guarantor may be required. You must be at least 18 and a UK resident (excluding the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man) to apply for finance. Services provided by RCI Financial Services Limited, P.O. Box 933, Watford WD17 1FL. This offer applies to vehicles ordered and registered by 30th April 2009 and is available to private and small business customers only. All figures correct at time of going to press.

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MAKE	MODEL	ENGINE	REG	YEAR	MILES	COLOUR	PRICE
FABIA	CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 54 BHP (PETROL)	GN04GLZ	MARCH '04	25210	LASER BLUE	£4,490.00
FABIA	CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 64 BHP (PETROL)	GL55KHY	JANUARY '06	57924	DYNAMIC BLUE	£4,990.00
FABIA	CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.4 MPI 68 BHP (PETROL)	Y523UJL	APRIL '01	53795	LACON BLUE	£2,990.00
FABIA	CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.4 MPI 68 BHP (PETROL)	OU51XGX	NOVEMBER '01	46088	DARK BLUE	£3,490.00
FABIA	COMFORT 5DR HATCH	1.4 16v 100 BHP (PETROL)	X779EKL	SEPTEMBER '00	46346	CANDY WHITE	£3,490.00
FABIA	COMFORT 5DR HATCH	1.4 16v AUTO (PETROL)	CK04BTU	JULY '04	13355	DARK BLUE	£5,290.00
FABIA	COMFORT 5DR HATCH	1.4 16v AUTO (PETROL)	CK04BOH	JUNE '04	8715	GRAPHITE GREY	£5,490.00
FABIA	AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 64 BHP (PETROL)	KX05NAA	AUGUST '05	34574	FLAMENCO RED	£5,790.00
FABIA	AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 64 BHP (PETROL)	KX55CVG	SEPTEMBER '05	36164	SATIN GREY	£5,990.00
FABIA	ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	1.4 16v 100 BHP (PETROL)	KF53SVU	SEPTEMBER '03	67647	BLACK MAGIC	£5,990.00
FABIA	1 SDR HATCH	1.4 TDi 70 BHP (DIESEL)	GD08FMJ	JULY '08	8344	BLACK MAGIC	£8,290.00
FABIA	1 SDR HATCH	1.4 TDi 70 BHP (DIESEL)	GD08FMK	JULY '08	9609	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£8,290.00
FABIA	1 SDR HATCH	1.4 TDi 70 BHP (DIESEL)	GD08FML	JULY '08	6035	TANGERINE ORANGE	£8,290.00
FABIA	1 SDR HATCH	1.4 TDi 70 BHP (DIESEL)	GD08FMO	JULY '08	8132	STORM BLUE	£8,290.00
FABIA	ELEGANCE 5DR ESTATE	1.4 16v 100 BHP (PETROL)	Y506TKM	APRIL '01	69629	DIAMOND SILVER	£3,990.00
FABIA	ELEGANCE 5DR ESTATE	2.0 MPI (PETROL)	GK52HMM	OCTOBER '02	35377	OCEAN GREEN	£4,790.00
FABIA	ELEGANCE 5DR ESTATE	1.9 TDi 100 BHP (DIESEL)	PH04BNZ	JUNE '04	60067	STONE GREY	£4,990.00
OCTAVIA	CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	2.0 MPI (PETROL)	X735OBW	OCTOBER '00	72592	PETROL GREEN	£2,990.00
OCTAVIA	CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.6 FSI 105 BHP (PETROL)	CF05TIK	APRIL '05	24853	STONE GREY	£5,790.00
OCTAVIA	CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	AE56DPU	JUNE '06	29631	FLAMENCO RED	£8,490.00
OCTAVIA	AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	2.0 FSI AUTO (PETROL)	GK55NVR	OCTOBER '05	31887	GRAPHITE GREY	£8,490.00
OCTAVIA	AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDi DSG (DIESEL)	EF07LHR	MAY '07	41701	DYNAMIC BLUE	£8,990.00
OCTAVIA	ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	1.6 FSI 105 BHP (PETROL)	GK56VEF	SEPTEMBER '06	59559	CANDY WHITE	£6,790.00
OCTAVIA	ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	GD06CNN	JULY '06	35993	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£8,990.00
OCTAVIA	VRS 5DR HATCH	2.0 TDi 170 BHP (DIESEL)	GF57HKO	OCTOBER '07	3751	CORRIDA RED	£13,890.00
OCTAVIA	ELEGANCE 5DR ESTATE	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	GF08VEW	APRIL '08	5570	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£12,990.00
SUPERB	COMFORT 4DR SALOON	1.9 TDi 130 BHP (DIESEL)	GJ52WCA	DECEMBER '02	59701	CANADIAN GREEN	£5,490.00
SUPERB	COMFORT 4DR SALOON	1.9 TDi 130 BHP (DIESEL)	GJ55QUN	SEPTEMBER '05	68989	SAHARA BEIGE	£6,990.00
SUPERB	ELEGANCE 4DR SALOON	2.0 TDi DSG (DIESEL)	GJ58MMW	SEPTEMBER '08	2340	CANDY WHITE	£18,490.00

Ex-Demonstrator Sale – Huge Savings!

MAKE	MODEL	ENGINE	REG/YEAR	MILES	COLOUR	PRICE NEW	SAVING	PRICE TO YOU
FABIA	1 SDR HATCH	1.4 TDi 70 BHP (DIESEL)	2008-58	TBA	SATIN GREY	£10,855.00	£2,365.00	£8,490.00
FABIA	2 SDR HATCH	1.2 12v 70 BHP (PETROL)	2008-58	TBA	DYNAMIC BLUE	£10,350.00	£2,060.00	£8,290.00
FABIA	2 SDR HATCH	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	2008-08	TBA	SATIN GREY	£12,185.00	£3,695.00	£8,490.00
FABIA	2 SDR HATCH	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	2008-58	TBA	BLACK MAGIC	£12,240.00	£2,450.00	£9,790.00
FABIA	2 SDR HATCH	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	2008-58	TBA	TANGERINE ORANGE	£12,560.00	£2,570.00	£9,990.00
FABIA	2 SDR HATCH	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	2008-58	TBA	SATIN GREY	£12,925.00	£2,435.00	£10,490.00
FABIA	2 SDR HATCH	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	2008-58	TBA	SATIN GREY	£13,310.00	£2,820.00	£10,490.00
FABIA	2 SDR HATCH	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	2008-58	TBA	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£13,310.00	£2,820.00	£10,490.00
FABIA	3 SDR HATCH	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	2008-58	TBA	BLACK MAGIC	£14,315.00	£2,825.00	£11,490.00
FABIA	2 SDR ESTATE	1.4 16v 85 BHP (PETROL)	2008-08	12177	STORM BLUE	£12,330.00	£3,350.00	£8,980.00
FABIA	2 SDR ESTATE	1.6 16v AUTO (PETROL)	2008-58	TBA	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£13,355.00	£2,365.00	£10,990.00
FABIA	2 SDR ESTATE	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	2008-58	TBA	CORRIDA RED	£12,490.00	£2,500.00	£9,990.00
FABIA	3 SDR ESTATE	1.6 16v 105 BHP (PETROL)	2008-08	7645	BRIGHT SILVER	£13,635.00	£3,645.00	£9,990.00
ROOMSTER	LEVEL 3 SDR MPV	1.4 TDi 80 BHP (DIESEL)	2008-58	TBA	ANTHRACITE GREY	£14,735.00	£3,745.00	£10,990.00
OCTAVIA	AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.8T 160 BHP (PETROL)	2008-58	TBA	DIAMOND SILVER	£15,190.00	£3,700.00	£11,490.00
OCTAVIA	AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	2008-57	10585	BRIGHT SILVER	£15,190.00	£3,810.00	£11,340.00
OCTAVIA	ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	1.6 FSI 105 BHP (PETROL)	2008-58	TBA	FLAMENCO RED	£14,665.00	£2,175.00	£12,490.00
OCTAVIA	ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDi 105 BHP (DIESEL)	2008-58	TBA	SATIN GREY	£16,170.00	£3,680.00	£12,490.00
OCTAVIA	ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	2.0 TDi DSG (DIESEL)	2009-58	TBA	FLAMENCO RED	£19,185.00	£3,195.00	£15,990.00
OCTAVIA	AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	2.0 TDi 140 BHP (DIESEL)	2008-58	TBA	CORRIDA RED	£17,105.00	£4,115.00	£12,990.00
OCTAVIA	AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	2.0 TDi DSG (DIESEL)	2008-08	TBA	STORM BLUE	£18,615.00	£5,625.00	£12,990.00
OCTAVIA	1.8K 5DR ESTATE	2.0 FSI AUTO (PETROL)	2008-08	TBA	ISLAND GREEN	£20,595.00	£4,775.00	£15,820.00
SUPERB	ELEGANCE 4DR SALOON	2.0 TDi DSG (DIESEL)	2009-58	TBA	ROSSO BRUNELLO	£24,010.00	£5,020.00	£18,990.00

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DrivingReviewby
STEVELOADERCHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk**Kia Soul**

DISCUSSIONS about Kias used to hinge on one topic – price.

There was very little point in bothering with style, quality or driver feedback.

Yet 'how much?' came well down the list of questions I was asked during a week with the Korean marque's new Soul – or should that be Seoul?

OK, it helped that I was driving the £14,995 top of the range Soul Burner.

This is no shrinking violet: 'Quartz Black' paintwork is complemented by roof rails, rear spoiler, a red grille and door mirrors plus wicked 18-inch low-profile black and chrome 'Burner Spoke' alloys. And, by the way, there are dragon decals crawling across the car.

There's no respite inside either: red highlights on the dashboard, doors and seats, plus alloy pedals, dragon motif mats and a 'soulful' sound system with a 315 watt output, dash-top boombox and front-door speakers that can light up or throb red in time to the music.

All proof that Kia has found itself at last –



Burning ambition of new Seoul star

HEART AND SOUL: The funky Kia Soul (pictured is the top of the range Burner) could join the likes of the Mini and Fiat 500 as a cult star

the brand's name actually means 'to come out' in Korean.

And it has taken just five years to evolve from an out-and-out value brand to one launching the Soul star, with customisation

and personalisation options to rival the Mini and Fiat 500 cult stars.

It defies pigeonholing too, though Kia calls it an urban crossover. The brick-like styling is largely influenced by the SUV (sports utility

vehicle) vogue of recent years, without the sheer bulk and the waste of extra motive power to the rear end.

Kia says an early concept sketch featured a wild boar carrying a backpack – a mix of



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muscularity plus practicality – and there are some nice touches, such as the window line narrowing towards the rear and a neat bull-nose bonnet lid.

The tailgate also hinges high and doubles as a rain shelter when parked, as well as giving access to a deceptively huge boot – half its glory is hidden below a false floor that lifts to reveal a tray with deep storage bins.

Fold the rear seats and you can really cram the car to its high roofline; Kia claims it will take a couple of mountain bikes.

Handling belies the car's looks. It is not a

4x4 and nor does it handle like the stereotype, so you get the high driving position and image without the heaviness and wallowing on the corners.

In fact, the Kia is a tidy drive with good levels of grip and a sporty nature yet decent ride, all helped by a wide track and long wheelbase – the latter also contributing to generous cabin space and rear legroom.

Despite its apparent bulk, the Soul also fares well on a choice of just two powertrains – a 1.6-litre petrol or diesel with almost identical outputs of 124 and 126bhp respectively.

As seen in other Kias featuring the same units, the diesel is the better, being smoother with more get up and go low down the power range – diesel 'tech' has been a Kia speciality of late. It will also average at least 10mpg more than its petrol sister – and the nose feels weightier and better planted when pressing on.

However, it also adds a grand to the price of whichever model you choose, so it is no easy choice.

On the other hand, there is no need to be miserly, with prices from £10,495 plus a five-

DrivingStats

- Kia Soul Burner 1.6CRDi
- Range: £10,495-test car
- Garage stats: 4.1m by 1.78m five-door hatchback/estate
- Powertrain: 1,582cc/126bhp four-cylinder turbodiesel driving the front wheels through a five-speed manual gearbox
- Performance: top speed 113mph and 0-62mph in 11.3 seconds.
- How green?: band-E(£120/year) road tax - 137g/km CO2 emissions
- Official fuel figures: combined 54.3mpg
- Euro NCAP safety rating (0-5 stars): n/a
- Fuel tank: 48 litres/10.6 gallons
- Insurance group: 6
- Warranty: five years/unlimited miles
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Cars shown for illustration purposes only. Finance subject to status. *£35 road fund licence applies to Matiz 0.8 S. **67.3mpg applies to Matiz 0.8 S. Chevrolet range fuel consumption in mpg (L/100 km), urban 40.9 (6.9) to 26.4 (10.7), extra urban 67.3 (4.2) to 38.7 (7.3), combined 54.3 (5.2) to 32.8 (8.6) the official co2 emission is 119 to 225 g/km.

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Vehicles shown feature metallic paint available at extra cost (Matiz £325, Aveo £350, Captiva £400). 3 years/30,000 miles full service package at an optional cost (Matiz and Aveo £249, Captiva £349). Available at participating retailers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. Savings against current man. rec. price at time of publication and available on UK supplied vehicles ordered and registered before 30th June 2009. Prices correct at time of press. (Chev716/74)

Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Aveo 1.2 S 3dr: Urban - 39.2 (7.2), Extra-urban - 61.4 (4.6), Combined - 51.4 (5.5). CO₂ emissions 132g/km. Captiva 2.4 Petrol LS 5-seat: Urban - 23.5 (12.0), Extra-urban - 39.8 (7.1), Combined - 31.7 (8.9). CO₂ emissions 217g/km. Matiz 0.8 S 5dr: Urban - 43.5 (6.5), Extra-urban - 68.9 (4.1), Combined - 56.5 (5.0). CO₂ emissions 119g/km.

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C3, 1.1i Desire 5dr, l/v5nrvf, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, insurance group:2, blue, 16453 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

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C-MAX, 1.8TDCi Zetec 5dr, ra08hvj, metallic monodust, with over 400 Ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year. insurance group:7, silver, 4000 miles, £11499, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

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C-MAX, 2.0 Zetec 5dr AUTO, ya07vbd, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, child locks, computer, driver airbag, foglights, front armrest, folding rear seats, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, seatback tables, side airbags, radio/cd, spoiler, rear headrests, tinted glass, blue, 6933 miles, £8995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi Zetec 5dr - NEW SHAPE, gk58vmc, metallic squeeze abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, heated screen, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, seatback tables, side airbags, radio/cd, spoiler, rear headrests, tinted glass, blue, 6933 miles, £8995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi LX 5dr [AC], l/w53lcf, metallic vitro, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests insurance group:5, green, 49434 miles, £4995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 3dr [Climate], gk06pov, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests insurance group:5, silver, 6754 miles, £6995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Freedom 3dr, gk07wmx, adjustable seats, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests insurance group:4, blue, 16956 miles, £6995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Ghia 5dr - LEATHER, wu58jxy, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, blue, 14077 miles, £9695, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Ghia 5dr - LEATHER, da08ahx, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, black, 12806 miles, £9695, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 TDCi Zetec 3 Dr, gk08ujd, abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, blue tooth, bluetooth voice control, foglights, locking wheel nuts, metallic paintwork. silver, 10679 miles, £8995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Ghia 5dr - LEATHER, wu58jxy, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, red, 9757 miles, £9995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 TDCi Zetec 3 Dr - STREET PACK, gk08odu, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, sideskirts, spoiler, tinted glass. insurance group:4, red, 4000 miles, £12495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi Zetec (Climate) 5dr, nx580ud, adjustable seats, air conditioning, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, black, 11168 miles, £8995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi Zetec 5dr - (Climate), ky58gpc, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, blue, 8439 miles, £9995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 5dr [Climate] SPORT & TECH PACK, ad08kox, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports pack, tech pack. insurance group:5, blue, 12156 miles, £8495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 2.0 ST 3dr - LEATHER / ESB / BLUETOOTH / ST STRIPE, g07vna, diamond white, st stripes, esp, please contact les bellchambers, abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd multichanger, rear headrests, sports seats. insurance group:13, blue, 21351 miles, £8995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi Zetec 5dr [Climate], nx580ou, adjustable seats, air conditioning, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests insurance group:5, green, 49434 miles, £4995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 3dr [Climate] **SPORTS+TECH PACK**, wmm08yu, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:4, black, 5607 miles, £8490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 3dr [Climate] **SPORTS+TECH PACK**, wmm08ba, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser insurance group:4, black, 11813 miles, £8490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 3dr [Climate] **SPORTS+TECH PACK**, gj57rr, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, blue, 12203 miles, £7490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 5dr [Climate], gk07wle, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, electric heated door mirrors, heated front windscreen. insurance group:4, blue, 22643 miles, £6990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Style 5dr [Climate], ad08xju, adjustable seats, air conditioning, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, silver, 10422 miles, £7990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Ghia 5dr **FULL LEATHER**, bg08ckx, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, blue, 20299 miles, £8990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Studio 3dr, ng08odu, central locking, driver airbag, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cassette, rear headrests. insurance group:3, blue, 12157 miles, £6990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Style 5dr [Climate], yf08ckg, adjustable seats, air conditioning, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, electric heated door mirrors, heated front windscreen. insurance group:5, blue, 14956 miles, £7990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 2.0 ST 3dr **FULL LEATHER TRIM**, ej56ocx, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd multichanger, rear headrests, sports seats, full leather trim. insurance group:13, blue, 20173 miles, £8990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi Zetec 5dr [Climate] *****735 ROAD TAX**, l/v06sve, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, electric heated door mirrors, heated front windscreen. insurance group:5, blue, 59622 miles, £6490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 5dr [Climate]****SPORTS+TECH PACK****, oe08kdd, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, electric heated door mirrors, heated front windscreen. insurance group:4, black, 16609 miles, £8490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

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FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 5dr [Climate] ****ONLY 28337 MILES**, l/y05zxx, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:3, silver, 28337 miles, £5990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Zetec 3dr, g0j08vy, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats. insurance group:7, silver, 11007 miles, £8990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Style 3dr, ad08xvw, adjustable seats, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, silver, 19302 miles, £7490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)


FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 3dr, gk54zbt, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, air conditioning. insurance group:4, silver, 42731 miles, £4995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec 5dr, na08kxz, air conditioning, alloy wheels, side airbags, radio/cd, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, remote locking, insurance group:7, grey, 19863 miles, £9495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 Sport 5dr, g0j07ycw, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:6, silver, 23737 miles, £8495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 2.0 Titanium 5dr - AUTO, g0j56czs, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats. insurance group:10, blue, 13650 miles, £8495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec 5dr [Climate pack] -AUTO, g0j06jcv, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, heated screen, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats. insurance group:6, grey, 17159 miles, £9995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)



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(06) PEUGEOT 107 1.0 URBAN SEMI-AUTO 5 Dr: Met.Blue, Auto/Tiptronic, Air Con, PAS, Remote C/Locking, E/F/Windows, 1 Owner, 33200 Miles, S/History, Ins. Grp 1, RFL £35 p.a. £5495	(03) HONDA JAZZ 1.4 SE 5 Dr: Met.Pale Green, Air Conditioning, PAS, Remote C/Locking, E/F/Windows, ABS, Honda+1 Owner, ONLY 26000 Miles, S/History, Ins. Grp 3. £4995
(Y) HONDA CIVIC COUPE 1.7 VTEC AUTO 2 Dr: Silver, Air Con, PAS, Remote C/Locking, Alloys, E/F/Windows, ABS, 2 Owners, 33400 Miles, S/History, Ins. Grp 11. £3995	(03) TOYOTA YARIS 1.3 SR 3 Dr: Silver, Air Conditioning, PAS, Remote C/Locking, E/F/Windows, ABS, Alloys, CD Player, 29700 Miles, S/History, Ins. Grp 5, RFL £120 p.a. £4995
(03) NISSAN MICRA 1.2 S AUTO 3 Dr: Silver, Power Steering, Remote C/Locking, E/F/Windows, ABS, CD Player, 26900 Miles, S/History, Ins. Grp 2, RFL £145 p.a. £3995	(54) MAZDA PREMACY 1.8 GXI 5 Dr: Met.Red, Air Conditioning, PAS, Remote C/Locking, E/F/Windows, ABS, Traction Control, ONLY 20700 Miles, S/History, Ins. Grp 6. £4995
(52) NISSAN ALMERA 1.8 E AUTO 3 Dr: Met.Blue, PAS, C/Locking, E/F/Windows, Alloys, 2 Owners, 30500 Miles, S/History, Ins. Grp 7 -PRIVILEGE CUSTOMER SALE £3295	(52) HONDA CIVIC 1.4 S 5 Dr: Silver, Air Conditioning, Power Steering, Remote C/Locking, E/F/Windows, ABS, 28100 Miles, 5 Service Stamps, Ins. Grp 4. £4495
(06) TOYOTA YARIS 1.0 T3 5 Dr: Silver, Grey, Air Conditioning, PAS, Remote C/Locking, E/F/Windows, ABS, Alloys, CD Player, ONLY 15700 Miles, Ins. Grp 2, RFL £120 p.a. £5995	(04) MAZDA 323 1.6 GXI 5 Dr: White, Air Conditioning, Power Steering, Remote C/Locking, E/F/Windows, ABS, 40000 Miles, 2 Owners, Part Service History, Ins. Grp 7. £4295
(54) TOYOTA YARIS 1.0 T SPIRIT 5 Dr: Met.Blue, Air Conditioning, PAS, Remote C/Locking, E/F/Windows, ABS, Alloys, CD Player, 40000 Miles, S/History, Ins. Grp 2, RFL £120 p.a. £5495	(54) HYUNDAI GETZ 1.1 GSI 3 Dr: Silver, Power Steering, Central Locking, E/F/Windows, ABS, CD, ONLY 15000 Miles, 1 Owner, Service History, Ins. Grp 4, RFL £120 p.a. £3795
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TRANSIT, 280 SWB Low Roof Van 2.0, na55ebo, panel van, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, ply lined, swb, warranty, white, 18036 miles, £8495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, High Roof Van TDCi, nd05om, panel van, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, lwb, ply lined, warranty, white, 45801 miles, £6995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, Low Roof Van TD 75ps, bl06xwa, finance available, full dealer facilities, ply lined, swb, white, 35000 miles, £6995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, LWB High Roof Van 2.4TDCi T350, wv56uwv, panel van, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, pcg, ply lined, white, 40211 miles, £9995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, High Roof Van TDI 115PS, ly08giv, 115 ps, panel van, cd player, factory fitted bulk head, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, ply lined, warranty, 3 seater, white, 20432 miles, £14990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

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TRANSIT, High Roof Van TDI 90ps, na55ejy, 90 ps, panel van, mot-10-2009, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, ply lined, warranty, white, 28990 miles, £7990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

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TRANSIT, SPORT VAN 110PS **DELIVERY MILEAGE**, 58, 110 ps, panel van, alloy wheels, cd player, electric windows, full leather, rear park assist, factory fitted bulk head, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, 2 seater, blue, 23 miles, £12990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, H/Roof Jumbo Van TDI 115ps (SRW), wk56zng, 115 ps, panel van, cd player, factory fitted bulk head, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, ply lined, warranty, white, 20985 miles, £11990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

TRANSIT 280 GLX, v56jwv, 130 ps, panel van, tonic, cat 1 alarm, factory fitted bulk head, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, ply lined, swb, warranty, warrantied mileage, 3 seater, blue, 28500 miles, £8999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

TRANSIT **BRAND NEW**, 09, panel van, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, white, 0 miles, £7695, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

TRANSIT 280 SWB, ng06bxr, 85 ps, panel van, max weight 2800 kg, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, ply bulkhead, ply lined, swb, warranty, warrantied mileage, white, 32000 miles, £6499, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

TRANSIT 280 SWB, bp56fyg, 85 bhp, panel van, max weight 2800 kg, factory fitted bulk head, ply lined, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, swb, warrantied mileage, warranty, 3 seater, white, 35531 miles, £7499, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

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TRANSIT CONNECT 230 LX, ly55okw, 90 bhp, panel van, cat 1 alarm, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, ply bulkhead, ply lined, tow bar, 2 seater, silver, 51000 miles, £5499, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

TRANSIT CONNECT 230 LX, ly07aho, 10 ps, panel van, max weight 2300 kg, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, one ply bulkhead, ply lined, warranty, warrantied mileage, white, 1975 miles, £8499, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

TRANSIT CONNECT L, 75 ps, panel van, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, swb, warranty, warrantied mileage, 2 seater, white, 10 miles, £7999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

TRANSIT CONNECT LWB LX A/C, an08ujj, 110 ps, panel van, max weight 2300 kg, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, ply bulkhead, warranty, warrantied mileage, silver, 5575 miles, £10999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

TRANSIT SPORT, 140 ps, panel van, max weight 2600 kg, alloy wheels, factory fitted bulk head, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, 3 seater, black, 8 miles, £16999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

HONDA

CIVIC, 2.2 i-CTDi Sport 5dr, oe56ewl, alloy wheels, alloy wheels, climate control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, front armrest, head restraints, headlight washers, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, traction control, insurance group:10, silver, 31000 miles, £10995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

JAZZ, 1.4i-DSi SE Sport 5dr CVT-7, gk53mup, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, electric sunroof, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:3, green, 51500 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

HYUNDAI

GETZ, 1.1 GSi 3dr, gk05cwu, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric windows, immobiliser, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, insurance group:3, red, 40000 miles, £3495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

KIA

PICANTO, 1.1 LS 5dr, gj57cdu, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, central locking, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:3, red, 19232 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

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COLT, 1.1 Mirage 3dr, gj55kyj, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:4, grey, 11675 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.3 CZ2 5dr "Parking Sensors", gk58vuf, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, immobiliser, head restraints, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, rear headrests, cruise control, electric mirrors, locking wheel nuts, multi function steering wheel, remote locking, insurance group:5, saving of, black, 4000 miles, £8495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

I-CAR, 5dr Auto, gn08gzw, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti theft system, central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coding body, colour coding interior, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, folding rear seats, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio, remote locking, tinted glass, insurance group:4, saving, silver, 500 miles, £7993, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

L200, 2.5TD Trojan Double Cab, ro06hza, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, leather seats, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, power assisted steering, remote locking, black, 51000 miles, £7495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.8 GS3 4dr CVT, bx08zrf, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, traction control, insurance group:8, saving, blue, 6800 miles, £12995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.6 Equippe 5dr Auto, gj57yir, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:9, black, 15000 miles, £7995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

OUTLANDER, II 2.0 Di-CD Warrior 5dr, bx57xsl, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti theft system, central locking, climate control, computer, cruise control, dvd, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, multi function steering wheel, power assisted steering, insurance group:11, silver, 17300 miles, £15995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

107, 1.0 Sport XS 3dr, gj07tuv, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, driver airbag, electric windows, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:1, black, 9800 miles, £6995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

207, 1.4 Urban 3dr, gk57vxv, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, computer, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric windows, immobiliser, head restraints, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, rear headrests, remote locking, side airbags, insurance group:3, blue, 4587 miles, £6995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

RENAULT

CLIO, 1.2 16V Dynamique 3dr [AC], gj55gyv, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, immobiliser, head restraints, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, rear headrests, remote locking, side airbags, sports seats, sunroof, insurance group:3, silver, 14615 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

CLIO, 1.2 16V Campus Sport i-music 2007 3dr, al56law, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, insurance group:3, blue, 16000 miles, £5495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

SUBARU

IMPREZA, 2.0 WRX AWD Turbo 4dr, ek54yiv, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, side airbags, radio/cd, sports seats, insurance group:20, blue, 31500 miles, £8995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

TOYOTA

YARIS, 1.0 VVT-i Colour Collection 3dr, bx55xsl, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:2, silver, 26000 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

ASTRA, 1.6i 16V SXi Digital 5dr, eo55hym, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, multichanger, rear headrests, sports seats, insurance group:6, black, 23000 miles, £6995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

CORSA, 1.4i 16V SXi 5dr Auto [AC], vn07ons, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electric airbag, folding rear seats, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, rear headrests, remote locking, side airbags, sports seats, insurance group:4, black, 15000 miles, £8895, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

ZAFIRA, 1.9 CDTi SRI [150] 5dr [Exterior Pack], gj56uad, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, remote locking, roof rails, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, traction control, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, 1 year warranty and roadside assistance, insurance group:9, blue, 28402 miles, £9600, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

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VOLVO

V40, 2.0T SE 5dr Auto, gf03vkn, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, electrically adjustable seats, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:14, black, 65000 miles, £5495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

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In association with

By **TONY PATEY**

tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

3,000 reasons to celebrate agency's role

ALMOST 3,000 new jobs have been created by businesses attracted and supported by Locate in Kent, the county's investment promotion agency.

Its 2008-09 figures show it created 2,891 jobs – a 23 per cent increase on last year – and assisted a record 76 UK and international firms to expand or relocate to the county.

This contributed nearly £126 million to the Kent economy and occupied more than 1.5m sq ft of commercial property space.

And when indirect and retained jobs are added, the total involved is 5,439.

Thames Gateway Kent and west Kent attracted the most new jobs (1,437 and 951 respectively).

The agency assisted a range of companies, from small and innovative start-ups in environmental technologies including Ecoffins, a manufacturer of eco-friendly caskets, to large blue-chip companies including Morrisons, creating more than 1,000 jobs in Sittingbourne.

It said Kent is continuing to attract significant interest from international companies, with a total of 12 foreign investors in 2008-09.

In fact, the US proved to be the largest international investor, followed by Canada.

Almost a fifth of active projects in the pipeline are foreign-owned companies, an increase of four per cent on 2007-08.

Chairman Sir Brandon Gough said: "We have had an excellent year, exceeding targets on all fronts despite the challenging global financial situation. Investment from overseas companies will be an increasingly important

vehicle for economic growth in Kent, further fuelling job creation and supporting local businesses."

Peter Gilroy, chief executive of Kent County Council, said: "It is imperative the county continues to demonstrate it is open for business and we are committed to breaking down barriers to ensure Kent companies remain competitive and make the most of their location."

According to the figures, 42 per cent of all

investments and a quarter of new jobs were in knowledge-based industries. The strongest sectors were business services (13 per cent), followed by manufacturing (11 per cent) and engineering (nine per cent).

Chief executive Paul Wookey said: "The Grant for Business Investment scheme proved particularly popular this year, with more companies taking advantage of the free guidance we offer through our grant advisors."

"We're extremely optimistic about where our high-speed future is taking us and are ready to seize opportunities as the economy recovers."

"It's clear Kent has all the attributes to attract innovative companies in growing sectors and can compete on a global level in attracting international names and blue-chip investors. Kent has an enviable track record and a bright future."



COMPETING:
Paul Wookey

Established in 1997, Locate in Kent is funded and supported by KCC, Seeda (South East England Development Agency), East Kent Partnership, Medway Council, local councils, and the Kent Developers' Group.



ON THE ATTACK:
George Osborne

'Looming summer jobs crisis' says Osborne

SHADOW chancellor George Osborne this week faced some tough questions from Kent business people – and students aiming to get into work within a year or so, *writes Tony Patey*.

He was at Bromley College at the start of a series of European election campaign whistlestops in his first public appearance after the Tories' spring conference.

In the face of an enormous public debt, he was questioned about where and when a Tory government, should it come to power, would cut public spending, but he was careful with his answers.

Mr Osborne and Tory leader David Cameron used their speeches last week-end to start preparing the party, and the rest of the country, for any painful future spending cuts they may have to make if they win the next general elec-

tion. To be honest, to give a list of where the cuts might come, and any ideas about tax changes, at this stage would not be strategically clever.

So it wasn't surprising when he was guarded, although he did concede "the bulk of dealing with the problem is to come from public spending restraint rather than tax rises".

Mr Osborne told a group of local business people that cash flow was top of most business agendas. He had been on a fact-finding tour of motor groups Jaguar and Land Rover and found their main problem was getting credit.

During questions, Sean Kaufmann, director of local property firm Baxter Philips, asked how Mr Osborne would have tackled the Northern Rock issue.

He said the Labour Government did not seem to have a plan when it rescued

Northern Rock – "they then spent six or seven months wondering what to do with it".

He added: "It was clear what was happening – they should have saved it much sooner and not when it was on the 10 o'clock news and people were queuing in the streets."

The way it was handled damaged confidence at home and abroad, he said.

"In a financial crisis, government should exude confidence and handle it well. If not, it can have a massive effect on confidence elsewhere – which is what we are living with at the moment."

Later, a group of first-year HND business students said more money should be made available for job creation and for investing in education. Mr Osborne said risks must be balanced between how much is spent, and how far a gov-

ernment goes into unfundable debt – a tip-over which has happened in Iceland and Ireland.

He said targeted help was needed now for people leaving college this summer – "there is a looming summer jobs crisis" – and extending the education of students where appropriate and funding higher degrees where necessary.

He said we needed a "credible and rigorous" plan to deal with the huge national debt, and it had to be done in such a way that it doesn't drive away people who want to invest in the UK.

Later, Mr Osborne said he was "very impressed" with the college, where he was shown round by principal Peter Jones. He said it was "crazy" that £30 million funding for phase three of the college's redevelopment programme had been put on hold by the Government.

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IoD attacks gender gap pay U-turn

KENT bosses have condemned a U-turn by equalities minister Harriet Harman over plans to force big companies to reveal if there's a gender gap in workers' pay, **writes Tony Patey.**

The county's branch of the Institute of Directors, which represents Kent's business leaders, has described the Government's proposed Equality Bill as a potentially damaging new burden.

Frazer Thompson, chairman of the branch, said: "This is a further example of unnecessary regulation at a time when many companies are struggling to survive. Having received written assurances from Ms Harman's department that they had, and I

quote; 'ruled out mandatory gender pay audits', we at the IoD are very disappointed to hear reports that this might now be going ahead."

The IoD has long campaigned for the Government to reconsider plans to introduce any form of statutory disclosure of gender pay disparities and believed that with the recent economic turmoil proposals had been shelved.

Mr Thompson said: "Directors take the equality agenda extremely seriously and would have been happy to co-operate with more constructive measures, but this is a retrograde step that will do little to tackle the discrimination problem."

The Equalities Bill legislation will apply to companies which employ 250 or more staff, and to public sector employers with more than 150 staff.



DAMAGING:
Frazer Thompson

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THE Money Shop, the UK's big instant cash provider, has joined the National Pawnbroking Association (NPA) to form the largest network of pawnbroking stores in the nation.

In Kent alone it has shops in Maidstone, Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells, Ashford, Gillingham, Chatham, Strood, Sittinbourne and Gravesend. Nationally there are 260.

The alliance comes as the pawn industry has found itself thriving again as consumer credit avenues continue to be tough going, and coincides with the launch of The Money Shop's Gold to Cash Direct, a new service allowing customers to turn gold into hard cash.

It says with gold values at a premium

and set to rise further, selling unwanted gold and jewellery has never been so appealing.

Although a pawnbroking service has been available at the Money Shop for years, membership of the NPA sees the creation of an official national network with added benefits.

It now employs more than 1,000 people across its network, serving over 400,000 customers a year often in communities which have been vacated by banks and post offices.

More than a million cheques are cashed every year, and every week help is given to more than 10,000 people to reach pay day with cash-until-payday loans.

Ensure you have swine flu strategy

BOSSES should ensure they have contingency plans in place in case the risk of a swine flu epidemic in the UK increases, warns the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development.

Senior public policy advisor Ben Willmott says that while it's important not to overstate the potential risk of a flu pandemic, it makes sense for organisations to have plans in place if needed.

He said: "Many employers will already have a policy on how to respond to a potential flu pandemic as a result of the heightened risk of bird flu over the last few years."

"Employers should have in place strategies to allow them to run on skeleton staff levels."

"Service and customer-facing organisations should

consider the possibilities for increasing the amount of online transactions, as well as self-service options for customers."

"All employers should think about maximising home working and investigate the potential for increasing the use of video-links and tele-conferencing to help limit the amount of face-to-face contact."

"Organisations should also identify key roles that must be carried out and those individuals who have a wide range of skills who can fulfil more than one function."

"In case of a pandemic, employers should also formulate clear advice for staff on the symptoms of the illness and the importance of staying at home and seeking medical advice at the soonest opportunity."

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A world of difference as Sheps pulls gold awards

FAVERSHAM brewer Shepherd Neame just cannot help pulling awards for its beers.

Three – two homegrown and the other brewed under licence – have won four gold medals in the Monde World Selection 2009, the premier international food and drink awards.

Spitfire Premium Kentish Ale, its nationally-distributed premium ale, achieved a Grand Gold Award. The 4.5 per cent abv beer is one of the fastest growing premium ales in the UK and is supported by a multi-award-winning Bottle of Britain advertising campaign.

Bishops Finger Kentish Strong Ale won a Gold Award. First brewed at Faversham in 1958, 5.4 per cent abv Bishops Finger is brewed using exclusively Kentish ingredients.

Distinction

Both Spitfire and Bishops Finger hold the rare distinction of being granted Protected Geographical Indication by the EU, which means they are only beers in Britain entitled to be known as Kentish ale.

Also, Kingfisher lager won two Gold Awards, one for its 330ml bottled format and a second for its keg version. Kingfisher is brewed under licence from United Breweries of India.

Brewed according to the original 19th century recipe incorporating Indian yeast, 4.8 per cent abv Kingfisher can be found in Indian restaurants throughout the UK.

The winning beers will go on show at an exhibition and gala event in Venice, Italy, on May 31.

Tom Falcon, director of production and distribution, said: "This is the second year running that Spitfire and Kingfisher have won Monde Selection awards."

Celebrating success in tricky times

RECESSION-busting franchisees are being sought with the launch of the annual British Franchise Association's Franchisee of the Year Awards, sponsored by HSBC.

The theme for this year's awards is Success in Challenging Times.

The overall winner will on October 1 walk away with the top prize of £5,000 followed by two runners-up who will win £3,000 and £2,000 respectively – courtesy of HSBC.

Entry forms are available from the BFA offices, A2 Danebrook Court, Oxford Office Village, Langford Lane, Oxford, OX5 1LQ.

Or copies can be downloaded from the Members Only section of the BFA website www.thebfa.org

Closing date for entries is Friday, June 26.

Synchronica expansion in Russia is the next steppe

TUNBRIDGE Wells-based Synchronica, the publicly-quoted mobile email and synchronisation specialist, has clinched two expansion orders with a combined value of \$645,000, from one of the largest mobile operators in Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

The orders follow the successful promotion, including a television advertising campaign, of the Synchronica Mobile Gateway service by the firm which has seen an increase in demand for its products.

Take up of these services has been across all levels of buyers, from consumers using basic

By **TONY PATEY**

tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

mobile handsets, to the higher-end smartphone users. The significant new market opportunity that the region represents has been identified in a recent report from Juniper Research.

It predicts that, with Brazil, India and China, Russia will contribute to a vast rise in



CARSTEN BRINKSCHULTE:
'We see our customers expanding quickly'

operator-billed mobile data service revenues over the next five years.

The report suggests that, in these economies, this revenue will rise from \$26 billion this year to \$48bn by 2013, along with an increase in the mobile user base from \$1.2bn to \$1.6bn.

Carsten Brinkschulte, chief executive officer, said: "We see our customers expanding quickly and publicising their use of mobile email in order to protect their subscriber base while generating additional revenues."

■ **EUROPE'S first SME – small and medium-sized enterprises – Week will open in Brussels on Wednesday, May 6. The aim is to promote entrepreneurship across the Continent and inform entrepreneurs about support available for them at European, national and local level. For details of events in the UK go to: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/entrepreneurship/sme-week/events/united_kingdom/index_en.htm**



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MAIDSTONE-based automotive PR and events agency PFPR Communications has added to its accolades by being declared one of the 12 best places to work in the UK.

A recent survey by PR Week magazine and independent judges from the Public Relations Consultants Association and the Chartered Institute of Public Relations, looked at 150 agencies against numerous criteria, including work-life balance, staff training budget, family-friendly policies, career development, diversity policies, staff retention and benefits.

Founded in 2001 and already ranked as a member of the Top150 UK PR agencies for the last four years, PFPR beat off much larger, multi-national agencies with 200-plus staff to claim a place in the final Top 12 and win a bronze medal.

To cap the celebrations, the 20-staff agency has just had its Investors in People status renewed.

Peter Rawlinson, chief executive officer, said: "We have always placed great importance on investing in our staff and creating the most stimulating and rewarding working environment for our team."

COACH operator Kings Ferry, based in Gillingham, is supporting a Ride2Recovery charity challenge by supplying free coach transport for the event.

Ride2Recovery will see 25 young London men cycle 600 miles in six days, from London to Morzine in the French Alps starting on May 24.

Motivated by an unprovoked knife attack that left a friend, Oli Hemsley, paralysed last summer, they aim to raise awareness about knife crime and also money for two UK spinal injury charities.

The team will be met by a Kings Ferry coach at Dover, where they will all travel by ferry to Dieppe. The coach will then take the team to their hotel in Dieppe, where they will begin the French leg of their journey.

TUNBRIDGE Wells-based Ultimate Finance has appointed David Wright, pictured right, as its new managing director in the South East.

He joins the company with 20 years' experience in the invoice finance industry, including 14 years in operations and, most recently, five years in sales at Close Invoice Finance.



Movers & Shakers



MAGNIFICENT SEVEN: Standing, from left, Jeff Davis, business sector manager (sales), Trevor Smith, site services electrician, Jim Ludlow, director, Michael Howard MP, Lee Drake, site team member (distribution), and Dale Smith, site team member (production). Seated, Neil Coyte, transport manager, Chris Griggs, development technologist, and Kevin Chapman, stock controller, planning and production

SEVEN members of staff at Kent's oldest soft drinks manufacturer, Folkestone-based Silver Spring Mineral Water Company, have celebrated 25 years of service.

And to mark the occasion Michael Howard, who first visited the factory 25 years ago as a new MP, returned to meet Silver Spring's magnificent seven.

They were presented with golden watches and champagne by managing director Jim Ludlow when their achievement was celebrated by the whole firm.

The seven are Trevor Smith, Dale Smith, Kevin Chapman, Neil Coyte, Lee Drake, Jeff Davies and Chris Griggs.

Mr Coyte said: "I started with the company as a van driver in 1983 and became transport manager in 1997.

"Over the years I have seen a terrific number of changes, all for the better.

"The company has a great family atmosphere and great people – they really do look after you. I can say that as the company has grown so have I and these past 25 years have gone really quickly."

Silver Spring is a family owned private company founded in 1870. The company employs 260 people and has its own natural spring source, which dates back to pre-Roman times. Among its products are Bing, Perfectly Clear and Virgin Cola.

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CANADA LIFE	£559	LEGAL & GENERAL	£540
AEGON SE	£548	NORWICH UNION	£534
NORWICH UNION	£543	PRUDENTIAL	£532
PRUDENTIAL	£543	AEGON SE	£531

MALE AGED 65		FEMALE AGED 65	
LEGAL & GENERAL	£616	CANADA LIFE	£597
CANADA LIFE	£616	LEGAL & GENERAL	£590
PRUDENTIAL	£605	PRUDENTIAL	£589
AEGON SE	£604	AEGON SE	£583
NORWICH UNION	£593	NORWICH UNION	£579

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RT: Rate type R%: Rate percentage L: Loan U: Until
OD: Other details

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RT: FIXED R%: 4.74% L: 75% U: 31/03/2012
OD: £1,339

FIRST ACTIVE RBS
RT: FIXED R%: 3.89% L: 75% U: 30/06/2011
OD: £1,029

WOOLWICH
RT: FIXED R%: 4.39% L: 70% U: 30/04/2012
OD: £1,325

MARSDEN
RT: FIXED R%: 3.54% L: 70% U: 30/04/2011
OD: £1,123

OTHER ALLIANCE & LEICESTER
RT: TRACKER R%: 2.99% L: 75% U: 2 YEARS
OD: £2,310

ABBEY
RT: TRACKER R%: 3.39% L: 75% U: 3 YEARS
OD: £1,255

MARSDEN
RT: TRACKER R%: 3.25% L: 70% U: 30/04/2011
OD: £1,123

NATIONWIDE
RT: TRACKER R%: 3.48% L: 75% U: 3 YEARS
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Dispensing TLC helps Peter save cathedral

Q What makes you a successful painter and decorator?

A I have been a craftsman since I left school, initially as a potter. My work has always combined a creative aspect with providing a service to the public.

I hope my design studies and canvas painting enhance my painting and decorating work. My customers certainly tell me I have an eye for design.

This is useful because while some people know exactly what they want others appreciate advice on colour schemes.

Q Why did you decide to set up your businesses?

A I set up TLC because I just enjoyed this type of work so much. I still do. It is a real pleasure and it feels more like a hobby than a job. I am very lucky to enjoy what I do for a living so much.

Also, I set up www.yourchurchcross.co.uk because I wanted to offer a beautiful handcrafted product and at the same time help to support the Save Canterbury Cathedral appeal.

I knew a very talented stained glass craftsman and we got talking and the idea grew from there.

I think we are so privileged to have such an incredible building as the cathedral on our doorstep. People come from across the globe to see it.

Q What do you offer?

A I offer a painting and decorating service, mainly to private households. I also paint in both oils and acrylics.

My new venture is, of course, selling the crosses, which measure 10 by seven inches. People mainly use them to decorate their homes, usually hanging them in a window.

Q How has trading been and what have been your major successes?

A Trading has been very good. I'm delighted that customers use us again and again and recommend us. It has also been a real

'I enjoy this type of work so much – it's a pleasure and it feels more like a hobby than it does a job'

pleasure to build a small team of like-minded people. My son and a close friend work with me in the business and share my philosophy – we do what customers want to the highest standards.

During my degree studies I won a Lottery grant to teach artistic skills in the community. I really enjoyed this – particularly being able to help people with a disability.

It was very heartening to be able to pass on my skills to others, especially those less fortunate than myself.

Q What is your view of the industry in general during the downturn?

A You've really got to provide the best customer service coupled with value for money if you don't want to be affected by the downturn.

We are fortunate that we have not seen a reduction in business. In fact, we continue to grow steadily.

Q How do you relax?

A I spend time with my family and painting canvases. My other passions are travel, golf and walks along the beach.

I also like to plan my life personally as well as professionally so I spend time each day developing ideas.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Peter Hodgson is a true artisan. On leaving school he worked as a self-employed potter for several years. He then studied for a BA in fine art and design at the Kent Institute of Art and Design, and began painting professionally in oils and acrylics, selling his paintings through local galleries.

Peter then worked with his brother, restoring properties. He learned all the crafts involved, but his favourite was painting and decorating. He wanted the opportunity to be creative and at the same time work with people. He set up his own painting and decorating company, TLC, in 2000. The name, he says, sums up his business philosophy.

Almost all Peter's work is either repeat business or recommendations. While continuing his painting and decorating work, he has recently launched a new business to help support the Save Canterbury Cathedral Appeal. He's selling handcrafted stained glass crosses, made by a craftsman who restored the stained glass windows at the cathedral. For every cross sold, Peter is donating £5 to the Save Canterbury Cathedral Appeal. He spoke to KOS Media business editor Tony Patey:



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FRED ATKINS takes a look at the ups and downs of the 2008-09 season

GILLINGHAM

PROOF that relegation can have a rejuvenating effect on a football club. After struggling to stay in the second and third tiers of English football for the best part of a decade, Gillingham supporters can go to Priestfield expecting to win again.

It was difficult to imagine anyone waking up on a Saturday morning in Medway, agog at the prospect of going to watch a Ronnie Jepson side, but fans have been able to enjoy life under Mark Stimson (the odd aberration like the 7-0 defeat at Shrewsbury aside).

7 out of 10 so far, 8 if they reach the play-off final, 9 if they win it.

EBBSFLEET

THE flaws in the MyFC project have now been laid bare for all to see. Subscriptions have dropped from 32,000 to 10,000 and the Fleet struggle to get a fifth of that figure through the gate. Manager Liam Daish is entitled to ask why thousands of people who have never seen his side play apparently have the right to vote on his future.

2007-08 was the greatest season in the Fleet's history, so an encore was always going to be difficult, but 14th in the Conference and an FA Trophy semi-final is pretty impressive to anyone who remembers the years of water-treading in the Isthmian League.

7 out of 10 for Daish, 2 out of 10 for the owners.

TONBRIDGE ANGELS

A SICKENING end to the season shouldn't obscure the Angels' development under Tommy Warrilow.

A campaign of huge promise was effectively undone by a defensive horror show against a Carshalton side they had beaten twice in the league. A harsh lesson, but the club looks to be in a far stronger position than it was a few seasons ago. **8 out of 10.**

DARTFORD

SOMETHING'S in the air at Princes Park. They may have narrowly missed out on the play-offs, but after years in the wilderness, the Darts are building something.

Rival Kent clubs might mutter darkly about where all these fans were during the Darts exile, but Tony Burman's side are showing what can be achieved if a club is sensibly run and has the backing of its council, specifically Jeremy Kite.

The ground is Football League standard. If the fan base holds, the team could be too in a few years. **7 out of 10.**

MAIDSTONE UNITED

THE Stones achieved their objective: consolidation in the Ryman Premier, a season after coming within an injury-time goalline clearance of relegation.

But it's been a tough year, with only relegated Heybridge scoring fewer goals. United were over-paying at the start of the campaign and the budget was cut in the winter.

Managers Alan Walker and Lloyd Hume couldn't have coaxed a lot more out of a young team – at the start of April they still had a realistic chance of making the play-offs, but five straight defeats left them in a mildly disappointing 15th place. **5 out of 10.**

Hess' Whites go from strength to strength

Picture: SIMON HOWARD



KENT TEAM OF THE SEASON: DOVER ATHLETIC

THE Whites have been in a state of grace for the past two seasons, and given the strength and depth of both Andy Hessenthaler's squad and the club's resources, who would bet against them getting a third straight promotion next year?

Dover have made some extremely good

sides look ordinary this year. Some of their players were clearly far too good for the Ryman League and they seem to be the only non-league side in Kent unaffected by the credit crunch, but it would be churlish to attribute their success solely to money.

So, 104 points from 42 games? 10 out of 10.

MARGATE

MARGATE started the season with Barry Ashby, Paul Smith, Terry Yorath, Neville Southall and Mark Weatherly all on the staff.

This quintet would have been the nucleus of a decent side a few years ago, but unfortunately none of them were playing and the board seemed too busy arguing to realise they might need to recruit a team.

It might have been different if they'd given either Ashby or Yorath a proper go of it, but when director Keith Piper went public before Saturday's game at Staines, saying Margate would have the best record of the "relegated" clubs at this level of the pyramid it sounded dangerously premature.

By losing 4-1 the Gate lost the goal difference advantage they had over Whitby and it would sum up this avoidable shambles of a season if Margate got relegated like this. **4 out of 10.**

RAMSGATE

LIKE Gillingham under Andy Hessenthaler, Ramsgate found out you can only cling on to a rising balloon for so long. The Rams were a Kent League side in 2005 and have over-achieved ever since. Chairman Richard Lawson has admirably refused to break the bank on a futile attempt

to stay in the Premier Division and although the results haven't been pretty on the field, off it the Southwood club are in a far better position to withstand the recession than some of their county rivals.

2 out of 10 on the pitch, 9 out of 10 for Lawson.

CRAY WANDERERS

HAVING been in a two-horse title race for so long, Cray will inevitably be disappointed if they fail to join Kingstonian in the Premier Division.

They've clearly benefited from the stability of having had a manager as shrewd as Ian Jenkins in charge for so long.

Plans for a stadium of their own at Sandy Lane, Orpington, demonstrate the club's ambition, though they could do with a few more regular supporters if the proposed Conference-standard venue isn't to become a white elephant. **8 out of 10.**

SITTINGBOURNE

IF there were any justice in the world Gary Abbott would be Prime Minister, or Secretary General of the UN instead of manager at Bourne Park. Unfortunately there isn't and having flirted with the play-off zone all season the Brickies finished sixth, undermined by their home record, a consequence of a

pitch that makes it difficult to play the kind of passing football Abbott favours.

If anything, Sittingbourne over-achieved this year, but the award of the FA Charter Mark was due recognition for one of the county's better run clubs. **8 out of 10.**

ASHFORD TOWN

OH dear. Eighth place in the league doesn't begin to tell the story of one of the most wretched seasons in the Nuts & Bolts' recent history. Even before all hell broke loose behind the scenes there was a feeling that Steve Lovell's side were underachieving and too reliant on players Sittingbourne weren't too gutted about losing.

The players did their bit, despite going unpaid for the final weeks of the season, but the question now is, what kind of Ashford Town will take to the field next year – especially if they have to go into administration? **6 out of 10 on the field, 1 out of 10 off it.**

FOLKESTONE INVICTA

IF Invicta got one thing right, it was keeping Neil Cugley as manager, despite their relegation from the Premier Division last year. Warnings of clubs going into financial meltdown are ten-a-penny in Kent, but October's statement from Invicta's board did sound alarming.

Luckily, Cugley was around to steady the ship and as the pay freeze effectively scuppered their chances of promotion, Invicta still finished mid-table. **6 out of 10.**

WHITSTABLE TOWN

THE end of an era with Marc Seager stepping down, having turned the Oystermen from Kent League also-rans into an established Ryman League club.

At times 'Seags' sounded exasperated this year and when Whitstable were bad they looked very bad indeed, but on their day they were still able to shock sides like champions Kingstonian.

They were never seriously in danger of relegation, but the impression is that Seager could have taken Whitstable into the Europa League and it still wouldn't have kept everyone at The Belmont happy. **6 out of 10.**

CHATHAM TOWN

A familiar dilemma presents itself to manager Steve Binks. How does he keep his best young players away from clubs with deeper pockets?

This may prove easier than in recent seasons due to the economic climate, and a 12-game unbeaten streak at the end of the season suggests Maidstone Road maybe something more than a good place for a young player to learn his trade next season.

Having been worried by the prospect of relegation for several months, the Chats could challenge for the play-offs next year. **7 out of 10.**

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A1GP title decider to light up Brands

MOTORSPORT ROUND-UP

By TOM HOWARD

THE final round of the A1GP Championship at Brands Hatch will not only decide who will become world champions this afternoon, but could shape one Kent driver's career.

Once again the Kent circuit will host the final round of the series this afternoon, which sees nations compete against each other in identical cars.

The series could produce a mouth-watering climax with Ireland, Switzerland and Portugal all vying to be crowned world champions.

However, aside from the title battle, the championship could provide a much-needed boost for Kent racer Aaron Steele.

Plans

The Chatham driver, who has been unable to secure a drive for 2009 due to financial difficulties, was called up to the Great Britain team last week and completed three test sessions at Brands Hatch on Friday.

He said: "The series is something I am particularly interested in. It is top-level motorsport and the fact you are representing your country is amazing. I hope one day I will get to this level of racing."

With uncertainty surrounding the financial future of the series, A1GP chairman Tony Teixeira revealed plans are underway for a fifth season, which could see the Kent circuit on the calendar once again.



FINALE: The A1GP title will be decided in the season's final day at Brands Hatch

MIKE Conway's difficult start to his Indy Racing League career continued on Sunday with his third consecutive retirement at the Roadrunner Indy 300 at Kansas.

The event was the Sevenoaks driver's first oval race and he was making progress through the field up until lap 104, when he brushed the wall at over 200mph and damaged his car beyond repair. Conway will now prepare for the famous Indy 500, which takes place on May 24.

SHANE Byrne is still awaiting his first podium in the World Superbike Championship after a disappointing weekend in Assen, Holland.

The Sheppey rider secured points in both races at the Dutch circuit with 11th and eighth place finishes, but never threatened the top positions on the Sterilgarda Ducati. Byrne moved up to 13th in the rider standings.

JAY Bridger has secured his future in the British Formula 3 Championship by registering his own team – known as Bridger Motorsport.

The reigning British Formula 3 National Class champion split from Team West-Tec after just one race and is now prepared to continue the season with his own team. Bridger from Horsmonden, near Tonbridge, will sit out this weekend at Silverstone, but will return for round three at Rockingham later this month.

WROTHAM-based British Touring Car team Motorbase Performance had a difficult weekend in the second round of series at Thruxton.

After recording a win at Brands Hatch earlier this month, the team were hoping for more success. However, drivers Rob Collard and Jonathan Adam struggled to keep up with the Vauxhalls. Collard clinched two fifth place finishes to keep him fourth in the driver standings.

Timeline

Kent on Sunday sport takes a look back at the county's sporting action of yesteryear

1909 100 YEARS years ago Dartford FC completed their most successful season to date, without kicking a ball.

Having romped to the West Kent League title, winning 18 games, drawing one and losing one, the Darts were handed the Gravesend Hospitals Cup when their opponents, the Chatham-based Royal Naval Depot, failed to raise a side – leaving the Hospitals out of pocket.

A bizarre row broke out between four Kent football clubs, over the gate money from a Kent Senior Cup semi-final.

The game was between Tunbridge Wells and eventual winners Maidstone United. Under an obscure competition rule the other semi-finalists, Sittingbourne and Northfleet, were entitled to a share of the revenue. The KCFCA admitted the regulations meant both clubs were within their rights to demand a cut, but asked them to take the most morally acceptable course of action and forego their shares – a request both clubs declined.

1959 50 YEARS ago, acting captain Arthur Phebeby steered Kent to a thrilling victory over Sussex in a two-day friendly held at Tonbridge School.

Sussex captain Robin Marlar made a sporting declaration, setting Kent a target of 154 to win in two hours and with Phebeby scoring 75 at a run a minute, the home side reached their target with just two minutes to spare.

Phebeby was standing in for Colin Cowdrey, who opted to give the county's young players some practice and instead turned out in a charity game at Bickley, playing in heavy rain in front of a crowd of 5,000. Team-mates and rivals included Eric Sykes and rain-soaked Goon Harry Secombe.

Sutton Valence driver Peter Scragg escaped with just an injured elbow after overturning his new Renault Dauphine at a rally on Eastbourne sea front.

1984 25 YEARS ago, an astonishing finale to the Alliance Premier League (now the Conference) season took place at Nuneaton, where leaders Maidstone United held second-placed Nuneaton Borough to a 2-2 draw.

Trailing 1-0 to a 35th-minute goal by the future Welling and Faversham stalwart John Glover, before the Stones, including future Gills boss Peter Taylor, equalised midway through the second half with a 25-yarder from Malcolm Stewart.

In the 90th minute John Bartley scored the goal that should have handed the Stones the title, but an equaliser two minutes into injury time by Paul Culpin took the title race to the final day of the season – and but for an even later missed sitter by the future West Ham player Trevor Morley, Nuneaton might have pipped United to the crown.

Tragedy struck at the West Street point-to-point meeting in Aldington, when the aptly named No Justice was put down after fallen at a bend that had already unseated two riders.

Going over old ground

In the third of a series on defunct sport venues, **FRED ATKINS** looks at Essella Park in Ashford, which once saw 6,000 fans attend an FA Cup tie

LOOKING at the Essella Park housing estate in Ashford now, it's difficult to imagine this site was once a venue for an FA Cup tie that pulled in more than 6,000 fans.

Just south of the A292 Hythe Road and a little way to the North East of Ashford Station, it's a singularly unremarkable site, indistinguishable from dozens of others around the county, with only the street names providing any link to its past.

From 1931 to 1987 however, Essella Park was the home of Ashford Town Football Club, with Crystal Palace, Queens Park Rangers and Gillingham all appearing there in the FA Cup and the Palace game pulling a club record attendance of 6,525.

That mark stands to this day and is higher than the record for the club's present ground Homelands (3,363 for a 2-2 draw with Fulham in 1995, also in the FA Cup).

Financially things may currently look bleak for the Nuts & Bolts, but it was ever thus in Ashford.

Senior football began in the railway town when a team called South Eastern Rangers played at Newton Green in 1881. They were superseded 10 years later by Ashford United, the first senior



PARK LIFE: Ashford Town, taken between 1931 and 1939

side to bear the team's name, but by 1907 this club had folded due to crippling debts.

They reformed as Ashford Railway Works which lasted until 1929, but the following April Ashford Town were formed and elected into the Kent League.

Until 1931 all the town's sides had apparently been based at the same site, which is now Victoria Park, but it after moving to Essella Park that the club saw

some of the its greatest successes.

They won the Kent League in 1948-49 and in 1973 came agonisingly close to a Wembley appearance when they reached the semi-finals of the FA Trophy, losing 1-0 against winners, Scarborough.

After 1986-87 Town reached the Southern League Premier Division, but the final game that season – a draw with Dorchester that saw both sides go up – was the last ever at Essella Park.

CANTERBURY GOLF DAY



Martin Saggars Canterbury Golf Day takes place on **Tuesday 12th May, 2009** at The Canterbury Golf Club.

There is a maximum of 20 teams of four on a first come first serve basis. The cost of the day is £260.00 per team (£65.00 per person). Please show your support for Martin in what is set to be a fantastic golf day.

- * Bacon Roll & Coffee/Tea on arrival for registration from 11:30am
- * Tee-off times starting at 1:00pm
- * 18 hole team Stableford competition, best 2 scores from 4 Stableford
- * Longest Drive and Nearest the pin competitions
- * Beat the Pro
- * Putting competition
- * Three course meal
- * Heads and tails, Auction and Raffle

For more information please contact Laura on **01892 750131**

EXCLUSIVE

By GLENN PEARSON

EXPERIENCED bowling coach Geoff Arnold hopes he has done enough with Kent's attack to be given a contract to work with the county's pace bowlers for the whole summer.

The former England fast bowler was released as Surrey's bowling coach at the end of last season after being replaced by Martin Bicknell, and joined Kent as a bowling consultant in pre-season while director of cricket Graham Ford was exiled in South Africa awaiting visa clearance.

The 64-year-old, who took 115 wickets in 34 Tests for England, has been working alongside coach Simon Willis with the county's new-look attack which includes overseas fast bowler Wayne Parnell and loan signing Steffan Jones.

Chance

His future at the club will be decided when Ford joins up with the Kent squad and Arnold hopes he will be given a chance to continue working with the county's bowlers.

He told Kent on Sunday: "At the moment with Graham Ford not being around, I have been coaching the bowlers, but what's going to happen when the boss gets over, I don't know.

"Hopefully, all the bowlers seem to be quite keen on how it's gone and Wilco [Simon Willis] as well, so we'll just have to wait to see whether they want me to do a few more days or what they want. It's all been positive as far as I am aware, but obviously I don't know the club's situation with their coaching staff.

KENT SEVENS

RUGBY TOURNAMENT

SUNDAY MAY 3, 2009



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Coach on the attack

Ex-England paceman hoping for a full-time contract at St Lawrence



Picture: ADY KERRY

I'M READY: Geoff Arnold says he wants to carry on coaching for as long as possible

"I have said that I want to coach for as long as possible. Although I am pushing the retirement age I don't want to retire because I feel I have still got a lot to offer the game and am fit enough to do catching and fielding in practice, so it's wait and see what Kent want to do, really."

The former fast bowler has enough experience since retiring from playing in 1982 having been bowling coach at Essex, two spells at Surrey and occasionally for England.

He believes that Kent's mix of youth and experience in the bowling attack will provide enough variety to help the team get out of Division Two of the County Championship.

"There is some experience and there's a couple of youngsters coming through, so hopefully we can work with them and they will come through to take over from the others who will be getting on a bit," he said. "It has been a bit of a nightmare and unfortunate at the start of the season going into the

first game and the first one-dayer bowling a bit below par, but hopefully the injuries will clear up and we'll get a decent crop coming through and we'll start winning games."

Kent's problems with extras last season, particularly no-balls, is something Arnold has been working on trying to eradicate during pre-season.

He says he can help improve this given the time in training, but added it is up to the bowlers themselves to make the necessary adjustments in the heat of battle.

He said: "It is something we have been looking at, but I have said to the players that during practice you can cure it, which we often do, but then when they get out there in the field of battle and they get hit for four, often you will want to put a bit more into it and will stretch that little bit more.

"I always believe it's a self-discipline thing, you have got to hit a mark but some bowlers don't do that and then wonder why they get hit for runs."

England chance at last for Key

KENT captain Robert Key has been included in England's squad for the World Twenty20, starting in this country on June 1.

The Kent skipper, who has been captaining the England Lions against West Indies this week, will line up alongside players such as Andrew Flintoff and Kevin Pietersen in England's 15-man squad, led by new captain Paul Collingwood.

Kent chairman George Kennedy exclusively broke the news to our website ahead of the official announcement on Friday.

He said: "Rob Key has been named in England's side for the World Twenty20, and while that's great news for him it comes as a doubled-edged sword. We will now have to look for an opening batter to replace him while he is away."

The Kent chairman said the club's committee would sit down after Monday's visit of Scotland in the Friends Provident Trophy to discuss who will be brought in.

Key's team-mate, Joe Denly, has been omitted from the provisional 30-man squad.

England's first game is against the Netherlands at Lord's on Friday, June 5.

ENGLAND SQUAD: Paul Collingwood (capt), James Anderson, Ravi Bopara, Stuart Broad, Andrew Flintoff, James Foster (wkt), Rob Key, Dimi Mascarenhas, Eoin Morgan, Graham Napier, Kevin Pietersen, Owais Shah, Ryan Sidebottom, Graeme Swann, Luke Wright.



TWENTY20 PICK: Rob Key Picture: IGOR KUPCO



FRUSTRATING WAIT: Graham Ford

End in sight to Ford visa delay

AFTER more than a month exiled in South Africa, director of cricket, Graham Ford is finally expected to join up with the Kent squad this week.

The South African was due to meet up with the team for the beginning of pre-season at the end of March, but new visa regulations have delayed his arrival at St Lawrence.

In last week's Kent on Sunday, Ford said he was hopeful of being in England ahead of the County Championship game against Essex that started last Wednesday, but his application wasn't processed in time.

However, Kent's chairman, George Kennedy, is confident Ford will arrive this week.

He said: "Graham has now completed his tests and results are due any time. I really do believe he will be with us in the next few days.

"It has been unbelievably frustrating because the onus is on the individual, there is nothing we have been able to do to speed up the process."

Cricket at The St Lawrence Ground

Monday 4 May

KENT SPITFIRES V SCOTTISH SALTIRE
Friends Provident Trophy

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Wednesday 6 - 9 May

KENT V GLAMORGAN
LV County Championship

Starts at 11.00am • Gates open 9.00am



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Nat in frame for England

NATALIE Seymour did her chances of a call up to the England hockey squad this month no harm as she helped the Pennine Pumas win the Great Britain Super League.

The 22-year-old played every minute of the team's four games as they ended the tournament undefeated without conceding a goal.

The Pumas beat a Saxon Tigers side, which included Seymour's Canterbury ladies team-mates Susannah Townsend and Jenny Hall, 3-0 in the final at Cannock last Sunday. Goalkeeper Abi Walker was also involved in the four-team tournament, playing for Caledonian Cougars, who finished third.

Canterbury's men also had a representa-

tive, with Huw Stevens playing for the Celtic Panthers, who finished fourth out of six teams in the men's competition.

It was the third time the annual Super League had been staged by Great Britain Hockey. The aim is to identify talent to help selection for Great Britain, particularly with the Olympic Games in mind.

Seymour, who along with Hall played in England's friendly internationals against Ireland last month, will hope the victory was enough to remain in the side.

Next up are games against Scotland in Manchester next month ahead of the Champions Trophy and EuroHockey Nations Championship this summer.



ENGLAND HOPE: Natalie Seymour

Picture: ADY KERRY

'Beijing nightmare made me stronger'

Baton mix-up part of the learning curve for sprinter

By **TOM HOWARD**

ONLY a medal at the 2009 World Athletics Championships will erase the memory of a bitter-sweet Beijing Olympics for Kent sprinter Montell Douglas.

The Bromley-born athlete is gearing up for the 2009 season and admitted although last year was her most successful, the Olympic relay final mix-up still haunts her.

For Douglas, last season will live long in her memory as one tinged with disappointment. The athlete turned heads by breaking the women's British 100m sprint record on the eve of the Games, which had stood for 27 years.

The success went some way to earning her to a shock call-up to the Great Britain Beijing Olympic squad.

In what should have been the highlight of the 23-year-old's athletics career, the experience was overshadowed by an error in the 4x100m relay final in front of a worldwide audience at the Birds Nest Stadium.

A mix-up between Douglas, running the second leg of the final, and Emily Freeman at the change over point, saw Great Britain disqualified as they failed to complete the baton hand over.

Even though eight months have passed since the incident, Douglas is eager to banish the Beijing disappointment by performing at the World Athletics Championships in Berlin in August.

She said: "The relay final was one of those things. Teams in the past have dropped the



DESPAIR: Montell Douglas (left) and GB 100m relay team-mates Emma Ania (centre) and Emily Freeman after the baton mix-up which cost them a medal **Picture:** PA PHOTOS

baton both in the men's and women's race.

"It was a massive missed opportunity for myself and the team. I think the only thing that would eclipse the disappointment would be to come back with a World Championship medal.

"It was a long and gruelling season and it took a long time to recover. I remember after the Olympics it was difficult as I kept picking up injuries, but I had a long break. I believe I have fully recovered.

"Last season was possibly my greatest so far. The Olympics was something unlike any other event I have competed in. It can be so easy to become overwhelmed by it all, but I

think I dealt with it and I am stronger for it."

This summer will be Douglas's second appearance at the World Championships. She made her debut in Osaka, Japan, in 2007.

She only reached the quarter-final stage in the individual 100m sprint competition, but was part of the Great Britain team that finished fourth in the 4x100m final.

After the disappointment in Beijing, Douglas believes the team are in a better position to come home with a medal this year.

The Kent sprinter spent last month warm-weather training in San Diego in America and intends to begin her competitive season in June.

Olympic team sign up to train at Medway complex

BARBADOS have become the first association to sign an agreement to use the county's sports facilities for a training camp ahead of London 2012.

After months of negotiations, the Caribbean island will base its Paralympic team around the new Medway Park complex.

A delighted Cllr Howard Doe said: "We have a huge amount to offer international teams and Medway Park will be a first-class facility for the Barbados team's preparations for the 2012 Games."

The deal should be the first of many between facilities in Kent and national teams ahead of London 2012.

When the London Organising Committee published a list of suitable venues last year, Kent secured 36 sites for Olympic teams - more than any other



VENUE: An artist's impression of the new Medway Park complex for athletes county - and eight for Paralympic athletes.

Medway Park, an £11 million development on the site of the Black Lion Leisure Centre in Gillingham, is on both lists. The centre of sporting excellence, which will include a new athletics track, is due to be completed early next year.

Gills seek play-off perfection

GILLINGHAM will put their perfect record in the play-off semi-finals on the line next week as they go in search of a first appearance at the new Wembley.

After completing their League Two season at Rochdale yesterday, manager Mark Stimson and his side face the biggest games of their careers. The aggregate winners from the two legs held on Thursday and a week today will progress to Wembley to play for promotion to League One.

Gills will have history on their side next week. On the three previous seasons the Kent side have reached the play-offs they have always progressed to the final.

For Andy Hessenthaler, who played and scored in both the 1999 and 2000 semi-finals, the ties were among the highlights of his career.

"They're like cup finals and tremendous

games to be involved in," he said. "I remember both semi-finals really well. The first one against Preston I got the winner and it was very emotional.

"It's pretty open this year, I wouldn't say there was a clear favourite. I'll be keeping my fingers crossed we can get to Wembley."

Gills were one of the first beneficiaries from the play-off system, which was introduced for the 1986-87 campaign. That year they beat Sunderland over two legs, with Tony Cascarino scoring five times as Gills edged through 6-6 after extra time on away goals.

The 1999 campaign saw Gills scrape past Preston and a year later they were 3-1 down away to Stoke before Hessenthaler's late goal. More drama followed at Priestfield four days later as Gills won 3-0, setting up a famous victory against Wigan in the final.



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Geoff Arnold targets full-time bowling coach job with Kent **78**



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ATHLETICS

Montell Douglas on the baton mix-up that cost her at Beijing **79**



'PIGEON' TO FLY BACK?

South African leaves door open for Kent return after short spell at St Lawrence

EXCLUSIVE

By GLENN PEARSON

KENT'S new overseas fast bowler Wayne Parnell has revealed he hopes to return to the county after playing in the World Twenty20 with South Africa.

The South African international is expected to be named in the Proteas' side for the Twenty20 competition in England that begins on June 1, with his six-week contract at St Lawrence due to end on May 21.

The World Twenty20 ends with the show-piece final at Lord's on June 21 which, if agreed, would leave Parnell with a window to rejoin the county for the final three months of the season.

The 19-year-old left-arm fast bowler, nicknamed the Pigeon, who took 4-79 and scored a brisk 69 in Kent's first innings in the County Championship against Essex, told Kent on Sunday he would be happy to return to St Lawrence later in the summer.

"I am supposed to leave on May 21 as I'm hoping to make the South Africa World T20 squad later on, so it will give me a few days before that starts," he said.

Good set-up

"After that I will reassess where I am. If I do well there is a possibility I will return, but we will have to see. It's a good set-up at Kent with a good bunch of guys and a good mixture of young and experienced players, so hopefully I can do well."

Kent chairman, George Kennedy, told KoS that signing Parnell after the World Twenty20 is over was something the county are looking into.

However, Rob Key's inclusion in the England's squad for the competition means Kent may have to find an overseas opening batsman to fill in, but Kennedy hopes Parnell could return, potentially as a Kolpak player.



Picture: ADY KERRY

INSTANT HIT: South African international bowler Wayne Parnell, nicknamed Pigeon, says there is a possibility he could return to Kent after the World Twenty20 in England

"It's certainly in the pipeline," he said. "The only problem is if we bring in another overseas player once he has gone, and we are looking into that for more than one reason."

"If he did come back it could be as a Kolpak player, but these things are becoming more complex. On the evidence of one game though, he is the kind of player we want at the club."

Having been watched by Kent's exiled director of cricket, Graham Ford, Parnell was approached by the county with a proposition to join for an initial six-week stint.

The young quick bowler, who made his One-Day International debut in Australia in January, jumped at the chance to play county cricket as a way of preparing for this summer's Twenty20 tournament.

He said: "During the third One-Day International against Australia in South Africa, the club contacted my agent and he phoned me after the game telling me that Kent were interested because Stuart Clark had been recalled by the Aussies."

"With the World T20 being in England it will hopefully give me experience of bowling on these types of wickets."

"I have got to get used to English conditions and the English ball."

Parnell, who plays for Warriors in South Africa, is likely to be a valuable asset to Kent's bowling attack, particularly with his ability to swing the ball both ways.

Also an explosive lower order batsman, the future looks bright for the young player.

He said: "I have worked really hard on my variations with Ashwell Prince and Robin Peterson, who have been helping me."

"Towards the end of the season in South Africa I managed to work on the one that goes away from the right-hander."

"I have gone away and worked hard and it's something I can use to my advantage while over here."

"It's important to not get carried away, it's about keeping it simple."

• **Kent skipper Rob Key has been handed an England recall, see page 78 for more.**

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Million reasons for Gills to win the play-offs

GILLINGHAM could scoop a cool £1 million if they achieve promotion with a victory at Wembley Stadium, **writes David Pritchard.**

The club face their most important games in years next week with a substantial financial windfall at stake on top of a prospective trip to the national stadium.

While Mark Stimson's side are focused on success in the play-offs to make amends for relegation last season, victory would also significantly boost the club's bank balance.

Gills would scoop an estimated £500,000 by winning the two-legged tie, which begins on Thursday and concludes next Sunday.

With all the added revenue from playing in a division above next season, victory in the final at Wembley would be worth well over £1 million.

Mark Jones, the club's chief executive, told Kent on Sunday he would have preferred the security of automatic promotion, but agreed the play-offs were a more lucrative route.



GOLDEN ARCH: Gills could pick up £1m for winning the play-off final at Wembley

"We could generate half a million pounds if we went to Wembley," he said. "I would rather take being in League One now, it would gen-

erate much more money for the club in terms of bigger gates, more television revenue and sponsorship.

"But if you could guarantee we would go up through the play-offs then I would take that every time."

An 11,000 sell-out is predicted for the Priestfield leg of the semi-final, with both legs screened live on television.

If Gills were to contest the final it would net them around twice what they earned from their FA Cup campaign, which culminated in a televised third-round tie against Aston Villa in January.

Even a defeat for Gillingham in the semi-finals would see them net about £100,000 from the games.

The unexpected money is a timely bonus for the club, which announced losses of £1.2 million for the year ending last October. The accounts also revealed debts in excess of £3.5 million.

Picture: ADY KERRY